MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 MARCH 1983

Lebanon

Netanya Talks -- The Netanya talks were characterized by "heightened and sharp discussions" with the Israelis insisting on their basic demands on security arrangements and mutual relations so that discussions continued in a "vicious circle," according to Beirut radio reports on the latest Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks. A Lebanese official involved in the negotiations spoke of "heightened differences" on basic principles and the radio said Israel must relinquish its intransigent positions in order to avoid deadlock and suspension of the talks. The Israeli delegation refrained from describing the atmosphere at Netanya as optimistic and its chairman called on the Lebanese to state exactly what Lebanon wants from the negotiations, Jerusalem radio reported.

Security -- Four Lebanese Army men, including a colonel, were wounded when their unit was ambushed on its way to a firing range south of Ba'labakk, according to a 4 March Army Command statement broadcast by Beirut radio. Six attackers were killed or wounded in the fighting, which eased after intervention by the Syrian Arab deterrent forces, the statement said. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the attackers were Shi'ite Amal gunmen and Iranian guards who had earlier warned the Army not to use the firing range.

In another development, the IDF spokesman announced that three Israeli soldiers were wounded in a 3 March ambush south of Ad-Damur, IDF Radio reported.

Egyptian-Israeli Talks

Israel and Egypt have resumed their dialogue and negotiatons and now face a long series of meetings, the head of the Israeli delegation to the Ismailia talks announced in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Several useful ideas suitable as a basis for further consultations were put forward and the parties have agreed to meet again at the earliest opportunity, Cairo Radio reported. The next meeting will focus on bilateral trade agreements, Jerusalem radio noted.

During the current talks the Egyptian delegation demanded that the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) replace the Israeli police unit in Tabah and also restated Egypt's opposition to the Israeli hotel operating in the area, Jerusalem Radio reported. The Israelis said they will allow the MFO into Tabah in addition to the Israeli police and also called on the Egyptians to seek out those responsible for recently planting mines that killed five Negev Desert bedouin, according to Jerusalem and IDF radio reports.

Israel

Eytan on Missiles -- Israel has "no intention" of attacking Syria's SAM-5's and the Syrians are publicizing warnings of such an attack in order to provide an "alibi" should they decide to initiate action against Israel, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan said in remarks braodcast by Jerusalem radio.

Temple Mount Bomb -- Police defused a bomb found at the Mağlis gate to Temple Mount, IDF Radio reported on 4 March.

Egypt

A 1 March AL-AHRAM editorial strongly criticized the PNC statement differentiating between Egyptian nationalist forces and the Egyptian Government. The PNC resolution on Egypt used provocative phrases and "distorted facts," AL-AHRAM said, and its expression of support for those struggling to end the Camp David policy is particularly "disgusting in its implications."

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received a written message from Soviet leaders on the latest developments in the Arab region, INA reported.

Oil Affairs

The oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, Libya, the UAE, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Indonesia held talks in London aimed at securing a new agreement on oil prices and output, KUNA reported. Noting that the Libyan minister's presence at the talks indicates that every attempt is being made to secure a "water-tight" agreement prior to a full OPEC meeting, KUNA said the UAE oil minister expressed hope that the eight ministers will reach agreement during further talks on 4 March. A Riyadh Radio commentary on the current talks likewise expressed "cautious optimism" that a formula will be reached paving the way for a unified OPEC decision on stabilizing prices for the next 2 years.

Iraq

Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf will head the Iraqi delegation to the New Delhi Nonaligned Summit Conference, INA reported.

Libya

Nonaligned Summit Initiatives -- Libya is seeking to host the next Nonaligned Summit Conference in order to prevent it convening in Baghdad, MENA reported. A Libyan attempt to obtain Egypt's suspension from the Nonaligned Movement failed since none of the other delegations at the presummit ministerial council meetings supported the Libyan initiative, MENA also reported.

Libyan Airliner 'Intercepted' -- An Italian fighter "intercepted" a Libyan airliner over the Mediterranean on 27 February, JANA reported.

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INA: 'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SOVIETS

JN031929 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Tunis, 3 Mar (INA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has received a written message from Soviet leaders on the latest developments in the Arab region. The message was delivered by the Soviet charge d'affaires when 'Arafat received him here today.

QNA: 'ARAFAT ADVISER DISCUSSES ALLIANCES, EGYPT

GF031820 Doha QNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Mar (QNA) -- Dr Nabil Sha'th, adviser to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat on international affairs, stressed that the Palestinian state will be established sooner or later and that the road to Palestine has become clear despite the difficult stage which the Palestinian revolution is currently experiencing. In a statement to The Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM published today, Dr Sha'th said the Palestinian revolution is asked to cooperate with its brothers and friends in order to change the current international circumstances and to employ these changes in the interest of the Palestinian issue. He stressed that the PLO does not suffer from internal rifts as much as it suffers from [words indistinct].

He added that the Palestinian people want the highest form of alliance and coordination with Syria as well as with all the brothers. He added: We also want Egypt to join this strategic alliance so that it can return to its leading role in the dispute against the Israeli enemy. He continued: We also seek to ally ourselves with Jordan to ensure the establishment of a confederation after achieving an independent Palestinian state. But in regard to all these alliances, we will not give up our independence, nor will we abandon our future aspirations.

The Palestinian official denied that democratic and nationalist circles in Egypt had demanded a delay in restoration of relations with the PLO. He stressed that what has been published in this regard is not true. He added that any political observer knows that Husni Mubarak's regime is not comparable to the former regime of Anwar as-Sadat, particularly with regard to relations with Israel. Mubarak has severed contacts with the Israeli enemy and stopped the process of normalization of relations. Besides, the Palestinian flag recently flew in Cairo instead of the Israeli flag.

AD-DAJANI QUOTED ON PALESTINIAN-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

PM031439 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Mar 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Ad-Danjani to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: I Do Not Rule Out an 'Arafat-Mubarak Meeting in New Delhi"]

[Except] Khartoum -- PLO Executive Committee member Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani has stated that he does not rule out the possibility of a meeting between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in New Delhi during the forthcoming nonaligned conference there.

Dr ad-Dajani told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the "renormalization" of Egyptian-Palestinian relations is a matter for the Executive Committee to decide, but he held the Egyptian officials responsible for the present state of Egypt's relations with the PLO. He said Egypt had refused to host some of the Palestinian fedayeen after their departure from Beirut, and it then called for mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel without recognition of the Palestinian people's right to an independent state. Furthermore, he said, Egypt denied over 500 Palestinian students permission to attend Egyptian universities and refused to grant entry visas to some of the fighters who wanted to visit their families in Egypt.

Dr ad-Dajani admitted that Egypt's attitude after the Beirut battle was better than the attitude of some other Arab states.

On Syrian-Palestinian relations, Dr ad-Dajani said that the presence of over 1,000 Palestinian fighters in Syria has created a unified position and mutual respect.

Dr ad-Dajani is at present with 'Arafat during his current visit to Sudan at the invitation of Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

AD-DUSTUR INTERVIEW WITH PLO'S JAMIL AS-SURANI

JN031129 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Mar 83 pp 17, 20

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee member Jamal as-Surani has said that U.S. policy still ignores the Palestinian people's existence as a people who have rights according to the UN Charter and world recognition of human rights -- their right to self-determination and to set up their independent state.

In a statement to AD-DUSTUR, As-Surani said President Reagan's statement on giving the Palestinians a kind of homeland is not significant, because such an expression does not exist in international policy and law. He rejected these statements and rejected the expansion of Israeli occupation to the east bank. He said Jordan has frankly declared that the Palestinian homeland should be on Palestinian land and that the Palestinian people should determine their own future and establish their state on their land.

As-Surani said that establishing a Palestinian state does not conflict with the special relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, who in face are one people. It was British imperialism that established the borders between them and implanted Israel, sponsored by the United States, in Palestine. He added: U.S. officials are used to making such statements, which have become frequent, during every Arab meeting. If those officials are sincere, the United States must prove it is a superpower and instruct its military base, Israel, to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

As-Surani said that any change in U.S. policy would be possibly only by making a real and tangible change in the Arab world, such as ending the Iraqi-Iranian war, patching up the differences between Iraq and Syria on the hand and Jordan and Syria on the other, extricating Egypt from Camp David, and solving the Libyan-Sudanese differences. He said the United States would change its policy in the Middle East should Arab decisionmaking be revitalized and Arab strength, weapons, oil, and money united.

PLO OFFICE DENIES REPORTS ON SEVEN-MEMBER COMMITTEE

JN040731 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] The PLO office in Amman has made the following clarification:

The PLO Executive Committee office in Jordan would like to emphasize that the PLO has no cognizance of reports recently published in the local press on the so-called middle-of-the-road solution regarding Palestinian representation in the Arab seven-member committee which will visit London. The PLO's position on this issue remains unchanged.

AL-ANBA' INTERVIEWS FATAH'S SALAH KHALAF

GF031900 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 2 Mar 83 p 10

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf identified by nom de guerre Abu Iyad, by AL-ANBA' correspondent Talal al-'Awadi in Algiers -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is the nature of the Palestinian meetings which will be held in Tunis?

[Answer] The outcome of the PNC. There should be practical steps and a work program to implement the council's resolutions. We and the PLO Executive Committee will cooperate to begin implementing these resolutions.

[Question] What about your visit to Syria following the conclusion of the PNC session?

[Answer] The issue is not whether I go or not, but that there will be Syrian-Palestinian meetings, after the council's positive results. The meetings will be on the level of all the executive committees. Fatah will begin them first and then the meetings will be expanded, in fact to be the resumption of those meetings which we started before the Israeli aggression. Thus relations will be established on clear bases this time. No matter how difficult and hard the details may be, the important thing is not to make mistakes in the future. We hope Syrian-Palestinian relations will be the beginning of a new start which will open the way with regard to Lebanon and other fateful issues.

Referring to the U.S. President's recent statements in which he ignores the PLO and the Palestinian people, Abu Iyad said: The Reagan plan is not suitable and the PNC's stand in this regard is sincere. Reagan's recent statements merely reiterate his previous plan; there is nothing new. Thus we need a greater struggle to change the U.S. Administration's concepts of our people's rights and our Arab rights.

Referring to the Reagan plan, the Palestinian leader affirmed this reality: Anyone who imagined that the PNC might accept the Reagan plan is misled. It is not possible for any Palestinian to agree to it because it is merely autonomous rule within Jordan. If that suited us, then why did we reject Camp David, which stated autonomous rule for a period of 5 years after which there would be some sort of self-determination? If we accept the Reagan plan, why should we reject Camp David? Thus the PNC's solution for establishing a confederation with Jordan after the establishment of an independent Palestinian state is the right and safe solution. This links Jordan with us and does not permit any contradiction within the Arab arena.

HABASH ON ARAB, PALESTINIAN POLITICAL MOVES

LD040007 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] PFLP Secretary General George Habash has called for the mobilization of the masses through a clear and frank political stand against all plans aimed at aborting the Palestinian revolution and liquidating the Palestinian right of self-determination, especially since the balance of forces at this stage is bent toward hard work [as heard] and does not allow for the achievement of direct political victories. In a press statement Dr Habash said that the Fes resolutions constitute the minimum acceptable level for an Arab political move. We, as the PNC, have added two important issues to this subject. They are: The importance of taking the military option into consideration and of consering the Fes resolutions as the minimum acceptable level on the condition that this does not contradict the National Council's plans and resolutions.

BAGHDAD PLO RADIO ON ANTI-PALESTINIAN LEBANESE STEPS

JN021944 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The PLO is making moves and holding contacts with Arab and international parties and with the Lebanese Government with the aim of making all parties concerned face their responsibilities regarding the atrocities being committed against Palestinian civilians in southern Lebanon by various militias which receive support and cover from the Zionist enemy. UNRWA, Western media, information available from diplomatic sources in Beirut, and those arriving from Beirut are unanimous that the Phalangist and Sa'd Haddad militias and other mercenary elements continue to implement the Zionist scheme of expelling the Palestinians from southern Lebanese towns and villages and forcing them go to the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, as well as forcing some of them to leave the region completely.

The PLO continues to abstain from waging side battles at a time when the Zionist enemy is entrenching its occupation and expanding the area of its agents' influence in southern Lebanon and near Al-Biqa'. Those who implment the Zionist plan against the Palestinian civilians in southern Lebanon are forgetting that Israel is working to achieve its aggressive designs in Lebanon. Israel wants a divided Lebanon; it wants Lebanese waters and wealth. They should stand in the face of the expansion of Israel, which has annexed southern Lebanon to the Zionist entity.

Our battle is against the Zionist enemy who is trying to create a perpetual schism between the Palestinians and the Lebanese people. We tell the Lebanese authorities that they must recognize these Israeli designs. We also have the right to defend ourselves and our existence.

'ARAFAT PREVIEWS DELHI NONALIGNED SUMMIT

LD261437 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Novi Sad, 26 Feb (APS) -- Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in a statement made to Yugoslav television service in Novi Sad said that the basic principles of nonalignment, as defined by its cofounders Tito, 'Abd an-Nasir, and Nehru, must prevail over all the debates of the seventh summit and over all decisions adopted in this respect. He added: "We must follow the path set down by these leaders."

While stressing that the PLO is preparing itself for this summit, to which it attaches profound importance, in view of the importance of the time it is being held, 'Arafat on the other hand stressed the need to exert gigantic efforts to halt the Iraq-Iran war and explained that the PLO, in its capacity as a member of the nonaligned states mediation committee, "will do all that is in its power to propose more useful means in New Delhi."

'Arafat concluded his statement by expressing confidence that "the Nonaligned states will try to outline tangible resolutions for the Middle East problem and the Palestinian people's situation."

MINISTERS MEETING IN LONDON; LIBYAN PRESENT

LD031856 Kuwait KUNA in English 1741 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] London, March 3 (KUNA) -- Secret talks among eight OPEC oil ministers aimed at securing a new agreement on oil price and production levels were adjourned here late Thursday afternoon.

After five hours of discussions the ministers decided to resume their meeting in the British capital at 11.00 GMT tomorrow.

The ministers from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Libya, the UAE, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Indonesia left the luxury apartment in London's fashionable Mayfair district which had been the venue for their talks. They gave little indication of what had been discussed.

UAE Oil Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, who had hosted the ministers at his London residence, told crowds of waiting pressmen that he hoped the ministers would reach agreement tomorrow.

The ministers had said little as they began their meeting this morning and little or no news had filtered out during the day from the closely guarded apartment block in Carlos Place.

But it is widely assumed that the London talks will provide an informal forum for key OPEC ministers to put together an agreement to lower the reference price and fix new production quotas to make the new level stick.

If this OPEC "mini conference" is successful, it is expected that a full emergency meeting of the group's 13-strong membership will be called as soon as possible to endorse the accord.

The unexpected arrival of the Libyan Oil Minister Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur to take part in the talks is an indication, oil analysts here say, that every effort is being made to secure a water-tight agreement ahead of a full meeting.

OPEC will want to avoid, at all costs, a repeat of its last emergency meeting in Vienna earlier this year which broke up without any agreement.

This was followed by price cuts by several non-OPEC producers such as Britain, Norway, the Soviet Union and Egypt, as well as by Nigeria.

OPEC is now attempting to avert an oil price war and to restore a semblance of equilibrium to the world market, and is also trying to involve producers outside the group in supporting a new price structure.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC'S BISHARAH COMMENTS ON MILITARY COORDINATION

LD032343 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] 'Abdallah Bisharah, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], confirmed the need to benefit from the Nonaligned Conference in order to give impetus to the diplomatic moves aimed at ending the Iraq-Iran war. He said in a press interview published in Muscat today that the GCC believes in the need to give impetus to any effort aimed at ending the war. Concerning military and security coordination among member countries, Bisharah said that coordination in the security field among the members has reached a high level and that there are active committees which meet and work quietly to streamline all the laws pertaining to residence, documents, the exchange of information, and other activities. He pointed out that the council have made a big stride in the military field, and that there are principles that are not open to debate and are clear, [as heard] that security in the Gulf is the responsibility of all the member states, and that any aggression against any member country is an aggression against all.

SAUDI MINISTER ON GCC SECURITY AGREEMENT

GF030516 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Excerpt] In a statement published by the newspaper AL-BILAD today, His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior, affirmed that the GCC comprehensive security agreement is still being studied and discussed by the GCC interior ministries' specialists.

SAUDI ARABIA

RADIO COMMENTARY ON OPEC MEETINGS, PROGRESS

LD032217 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] The Venezuelan minister of energy and mines has said that OPEC has made great progress toward reaching a new agreement on prices and production. The oil producing countries agree, in a cautious form, on striving to reach a unified stand on the future of oil prices, on the premise of preventing the outbreak of a price war among the producers that will result in grave damage to the producing countries which are incapable of bearing the outcome of such a war. The search now among the producers, whether in OPEC or outside it, centers on two main points: First, to get assurances from producers outside OPEC that they will not reduce the price of their oil below $30 and second, not to increase the level of their production above its current average.

In light of these circumstances, which appear very sensitive, there emerges a greater desire among the majority of the concerned parties to reach a solution that will prevent a price war, which cannot be controlled, from breaking out among the oil producers. We recall that Nigeria, Britain, and Norway have reduced their prices by $5-7 a barrel and that Nigeria is the only OPEC member to reduce the price of its oil up to now. It seems that the meeting, which is being held in London today by seven OPEC members in an unofficial capacity, is aimed at paving the way to finding a "reconciliatory formula," as stated by observers.

This could be discussed at an extraordinary meeting of OPEC to be held perhaps early next week in Switzerland in the event that the current talks, whether those held in Paris or the ones being held in London at present, reach a formula for a final agreement that would pave the way for making a unified decision on stabilizing the prices for the next 2 years.

In this context, the Venezuelan minister of energy and mines said that OPEC members have made great progress toward reaching a new agreement on prices and production. This is cause for cautious optimism because the issue has large, deep roots that are also interwoven in the web of economic construction of the international community. Thus, the need to treat the issue cautiously imposes itself on the concerned parties.

UAE

PRESIDENT TO SAUDI ARABIA ON STATE VISIT

GF020752 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Mar (WAKH) -- President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Abu Dhabi this morning on a state visit to Saudi Arabia. The UAE president is accompanied by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Quwayn, Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, the ruler's representative in the eastern district and chairman of the board of directors of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, ADNOC; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, minister of defense; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Brigadier Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for interior affairs; and a number of senior officials.

ALGERIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN 3 MARCH

GF031600 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Dubayy, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly Rabah Bitat today arrived in Dubayy from Tehran on a private 2-day visit to the UAE. The Algerian official and the accompanying delegation are expected to leave Dubayy for India to join his country's delegation in the Nonaligned Summit Conference which begins in New Delhi on Monday.

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will arrive the day after tomorrow, Saturday, in the UAE en route to India.

PDRY

BRIEFS

OCAL MEMBER ARRIVES -- Brother (Nasir) al-As'ad, member of the Political Bureau of the Organization of Communist Action in Lebanon [OCAL], arrived in Aden today on a several days visit to the PDRY. During his visit, he will meet with a number of officials of the party leadership to discuss the recent developments in the Arab arena. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Mar 83 GF]

EGYPT, CYPRUS TO RESTORE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

JN041124 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] In New Delhi, where intensive security measures have been taken in preparation for the Nonaligned Summit Conference next Monday, official sources reported that an Egyptian-Cypriot agreement had been reached to restore diplomatic relations between the two countries. The sources added that the agreement was reached during the meeting yesterday between Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Cypriot Foreign Minister Nikos Rolandhis.

Relations between Egypt and Cyprus have been severed since 1978 upon the assassination of Egyptian writer Yusuf as-Siba'i in Nicosia.

TALKS ON TABAH RESUME IN ISMAILIA 3 MAR

NC031400 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1322 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Ismailia, 3 Mar (MENA) -- Talks on the problem of Tabah resumed among Egypt, Israel, and the United States at 1000 today. The Egyptian delegation was headed by the assistant foreign minister, Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid. The Israeli delegation was headed by Foreign Ministry Secretary Shmu'el Divon, and the U.S. delegation by Michael Kozak.

Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid said that today's talks dealt with the temporary arrangements that are being applied in Tabah until the dispute is settled. He added that the Egyptian delegation devlivered a statement containing Egypt's viewpoint, which adheres to the need for the multinational force to enter the Tabah area and take over matters pertaining to security, in accordance with the provisions of the accord signed on 25 April 1982. He said that the Israeli delegation also delivered a statement containing Israel's viewpoint.

'Abd al-Hamid said that it was agreed to form a subcommittee of the Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. sides to define the points on which agreement may be reached. The subcommittee met this afternoon.

The committee is expected to continue its meetings until this evening, when in the presence of the heads of the three delegations, it will decide whether the talks will resume tomorrow or will end at a late hour tonight.

Statement Issued

NC031904 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli talks on the Tabah problem ended at 1900 today. A joint press statement issued on the talks says that the delegations have agreed to achieve progress during the coming session of talks. The three delegations exchanged views on the topics raised last May regarding the temporary measures in the disputed area in Tabah with a view to reaching a final demarcation of the borders between the two countries. The delegations discussed the proposed role for the multinational force. Several useful ideas were broached that are suitable as a basis for continuing the consultations among the parties and the multinational force before the end of this month. The parties have also agreed to meet again at the earliest opportunity to resume the talks.

Our reporter has learned that the Egyptian delegation affiremd several principles during the talks:

1. Egypt fully adheres to the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement and to the 25 April 1982 accord.

2. Egypt is determined to maintain its sovereign rights over its national soil -- rights which are supported by all international charters and documents.

3. Settling the Tabah problem by conciliation and abritration, together with the need to settle the problem quickly.

4. The need for refraining from carrying out any inadmissible activities, in accordance with the 25 April accord, or constructing any buildings or installations.

5. The multinational force should take over security responsibilities in the area.

'ALI STATEMENT BEFORE LEAVING FOR NEW DELHI

NC031315 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said before leaving Cairo for New Delhi that the current Nonaligned Summit Conference is one of the most important conferences which the Nonaligned Movement will witness, especially if we take into consideration the phase through which the world is passing today -- with increasing areas of tension and the new changes prevailing in international relations.

He said that this movement -- which Egypt helped to establish and which started with 25 states and now includes about 100 states -- as it constitutes the majority of world states, should play a positive and effective political and economic role in today's world by increasing mutual economic dependence among its member states.

'Ali added that Egypt's policy and activity during the conference aims at strengthening the Nonaligned Movement's capabilities and at supporting its effectiveness in various fields, particularly in relation to the settlement of conflicts which threaten world peace, the foremost of which is the Middle East crisis. Egypt will also seek to prepare for the establishment of international economic relations that are more efficient and that will allow the creation of a suitable climate for carrying out quick developments in the Third World states.

GHALI INTERVIEW ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR

PM031347 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 1 Mar 83 p 3

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Maha 'Abd al-Fattah, presumably in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Some people are of the opinion that it is doubtful that nonalignment -- in the full meaning of the word -- is possible at all times in relation to the two superpowers. It could not be done in the past and it is difficult now. When Egypt had special relations with the Soviet Union it had poor relations, or even no relations, with the United States. Now there are special relations with the United States but hardly any relations with the Soviet Union. The same could be said of the other nonaligned states. Each one of them has stronger relations with either of the two superpowers. What is your opinion?

[Answer] First of all, Egypt's nonalignment remains unquestionable. Above all, we must understand the meaning of nonalignment. The definition involves certain basic conditions. For example, despite our present close cooperation with the United States, Egypt has always said to the Americans that there shall be no military bases, no pacts, and no links which might in any way restrict Egypt's absolute freedom to assess and evaluate the attitude of other states in the light of its national interests.

Another example: Despite the problems which have clouded relations between Cairo and Moscow, Egypt welcomes the turning of a new leaf with Moscow and the establishment of friendly relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and independence of each state and noninterference in its domestic affairs. Furthermore, we must not forget that the differences with the Soviet Union did not affect Egypt's relations with several East European and other socialist states in Asia. You will find that this view was published in the American magazine FOREIGN AFFAIRS QUARTERLY.

[Question] It has been said that the movement no longer has the clear and important role it had at its inception.

[Answer] The movement's role is perhaps more necessary now than at any other time in the past, especially after the revival of the cold war between the two giants with its effects appearing in Afghanistan, Central America, and Poland. Add to all this the world economic crisis and you will discern the collapse of North-South dialogue and even the North's disinterest in dialogue with the South. A direct task appears before the movement now. That task, in brief, is to make the necessary efforts to ease the cold war and revive interest in a North-South dialogue to promote a new and more just economic order.

AL-AHRAM RAPS PNC STATEMENT ON LINKS WITH EGYPT

PM031457 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 1 Mar 83 p 7

[Editorial: "Talk Like This Is Rejected"]

[Text] The clause dealing with Egypt in the PNC's resolutions was the biggest of all. Indeed, it penetrated deeply into Egyptian internal affairs in that it openly differentiated between what it called the Egyptian nationalist democratic and popular forces and the Egyptian regime.

The PNC did not deal with present or future relations with any Arab or world country in such absurd detail as it did with Egyptian relations, using provocative phrases, that distorted facts and lacked diplomatic subtlety.

In fact, the council, which has the official capacity of a parliament and the supreme Palestinian decisionmaking body, deliberately ignored addressing any official Egyptian quarter or even Egypt in general, as it did in the case of other countries. Instead, it addressed itself directly to the Egyptian people and to their nationalist forces, assuring them that it would back them in their struggle to end the Camp David policy so Egypt would revert to its earlier combative stance.

This phrase in particular is disgusting in its implications and can only arouse feelings of denunciation and resentment in the Egyptian citizen whoever he may be. It implies a blatant differentiation between the Egyptians -- something that nobody can accept, particularly since it originates abroad. Yes, the Egyptians, like an civilized people, may differ among themselves regarding their country's policy, but they do submit democratically to the opinion of the majority and do not prevent people with a different opinion from expressing their views. Some people in Egypt voice their opposition to Camp David and others reject it outright, all of which is done with total freedom. But that an official Arab quarter should try publicly to differentiate between the sons of Egypt and go to the lengths of describing as nationalist forces only those who reject Camp David is something to be rejected.

It is rejected because it divides Egypt into two groups: a nationalist group, and a nonnationalist group that is not engaged in struggle because it backs Camp David. The council calls for the struggling nationalist group to be supported against the nonnationalist group so Egypt may regain its combative position in the heart of the Arab nation and emerge from its state of capitulation. Can there be any other meaning for this transparent and elaborate phrase?

Further on PNC Statements

NC030920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0613 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- Under the title "Camp David Scaffold", AL-AHRAM editorially denounces the PNC's statement that PLO-Egyptian relations should be on the basis of Egypt's renunciation of the Camp David policy.

The newspaper points out that every Egyptian can, through this impossible condition, recognize the effect of some Arab regimes which regrettably are still influencing a great deal of Palestinian activities despite all that had been said in the wake of the atrocious Israeli invasion of Beirut, especially regarding the restoration of the Palestinian's decision to be independent and free, together with creating new positions in light of the disgraceful stances in Lebanon.

The newspaper, in its article, expresses wonder regarding this strange attack against Egypt by the PNC's statement and its dubious insistence on stirring the Egyptian people, and what it called "the nationalist forces" against the regime, together with erecting the Camp David scaffold for Egypt despite all that has been exerted recently by Egypt -- regardless of its sacrifices and efforts for three decades -- in order to protect the Palestinian forces withdrawing from Beirut.

GHALI MEETS AFRICAN MINISTERS, MAKES STATEMENT

NC031958 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1848 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi, 3 Mar (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with the foreign ministers of Nigeria, Cameroon, and Chad who are currently in New Delhi to attend the nonaligned foreign ministers council meetings.

Dr Ghali discussed with each minister the future of the OAU and the means to end the disputes in it, as well as efforts to convene the next African summit in Addis Ababa at the end of May or the beginning of June.

During the meeting, Chadian Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine expressed to Dr Ghali his country's disappointment at the Libyan leadership's constant interference in Chad's affairs.

Dr Ghali also met with the head of the Guinean delegation and discussed with him arrangements for holding a meeting between President Mubarak and President Sekou Toure during their presence in New Delhi to attend the Nonaligned Summit Conference.

Dr Ghali pointed out in a statement that the supporters of the idea of convening an African conference in Addis Ababa wish it to convene without preconditions on the attendance or nonattendance of the Saharan Republic at a time when the majority of the African states refuse to participate in the conference if the Saharan Republic attends.

He said despite the fact that it has not and will not recognize the Saharan Republic, Egypt belongs to neither the first nor the second group, but it will try to find a conciliatory position between the two groups in order to rescue the OAU and find a solution to the problem.

Regarding the Chadian problem, Dr Ghali said it seems that the OAU has reached a solution to it because Chadian President Hissein Habre will be invited to attend the Addis Ababa summit.

On Egypt's role in the Nonaligned Conference, Dr Ghali said in addition to its interest in the political aspects and in consolidating the Nonaligned Movement, Egypt is also interested in the economic aspect and is playing an important role in this domain.

He pointed out that there is an idea, supported by Sri Lanka, for convening a wisemen's conference at the level of the heads of nonaligned states to discuss urgent economic problems. He said this idea was put before the Egyptian leadership but no decision regarding it has yet been made. He said he is sending step-by-step reports to President Husni Mubarak on the progress of the Nonaligned Conference.

CAIRO PALESTINE RADIO ON CARTER TRIP TO MIDEAST

NC041006 Cairo Palestine Radio in Arabic 0630 GMT 4 Mar 83

["Palestinian Popular Talk" by Mazin ash-Shawwa]

[Text] Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has expressed his desire to meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and with some Palestinian officials during his current visit to the Arab area in order to learn the Palestinian viewpoint on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East crisis.

First, what we want to say is that it is extremely nice of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to express his desire to meet with the number one Palestinian official, Yasir 'Arafat. Undoubtedly, it is very essential that we encourage this move, even though the former president is not in power, in the hope that it will be the start toward U.S. recognition of the PLO and the Palestinian leadership, especially after this leadership has proven its existence and competence during and after the events in Lebanon, and after it has proven to the whole world that it has the confidence of the Palestinian and Arab masses and the support of the whole world through the meeting of the PNC. This council confirmed the solidity and cohesion of this Palestinian leadership and its competence in shouldering the responsibilities of the future developments regarding the Palestinian issue.

As for the Palestinian viewpoint on the Palestinian issue and the Middle East crisis, which former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said he would like to learn through his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, we can tell the former U.S. president and the present U.S. President that the Palestinians have no ambitions at the expense of others. All they want and are struggling for are their national, historic, and legitimate rights in their Palestinian homeland and their right to exist and have an entity and live in their homeland, within secure and recognized borders, just like all nations of the world. The Palestinian viewpoint is completely consistent with what has been accepted by the international community and endorsed by the United Nations, which is our right to return to our homeland, to self-determination, and to establish an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Finally, all we want from former U.S. President Carter is that if he intends to exert his efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement in the area -- all we want from him is to try to be a fair judge. We do not want him to favor us at the expense of others. We want him to be a fair judge, that is, if he wants to succeed in this task. We are confident that the PLO and the Palestinian leadership are fully prepared to cooperate and provide all possible assistance to bring about the success of his mission in achieving a just and fair settlement in the area, which can help end the injustice to our Palestinian people and put an end to the suffering, loss, and bitterness from which our people have suffered for so long. Now it is up to the other side.

ABU GHAZALAH INAUGURATES MOBILIZATION SYMPOSIUM

NC011607 Cairo MENA in English 1532 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, March 1 (MENA) -- Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy premier and minister of defence and military production, underlined the importance of preserving Egypt's defence capability and its effectiveness to safeguard peace and to ensure the freedom of national will and the safety of Egypt's territory.

Abu Ghazalah said that by possessing a deterrent power, Egypt could prevent the increase of unexpected disturbances and wars in this tense area.

Abu Ghazalah further said that Egypt should keep a highly developed armed force with a flexible mobilisation system capable of raising the ability of the forces to move in all directions at the proper time during crises.

In the inaugural session of the strategic scientific symposium on the development of the armed forces mobilisation system, Abu Ghazalah said that if Egypt takes into consideration the limited economic capacity of the state to keep a big active military power, the optimum solution would be to keep a military power of a suitable size capable of being increased within the framework of a developed and capable mobilisation system that would match the expected crises.

The symposium, organised by the Armed Forces organizational and administrative body, had started today at the general headquarters.

PROSECUSION DECIDES TO RELEASE 67 DETAINEES

NC031715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- The State Security Supreme Prosecution today decided to release 67 persons held for investigation in connection with the two cases involving the Al-Jihad [organization] and the Society of Repudiation and Reuniciation [At-Takfir].

In announcing this, State Security Supreme Prosecution attorney general counselor Raja's al-'Arabi said the prosecution is currently studying the situation of the rest of the persons held in connection with the cases it is dealing with, preparatory to taking a position on them.

COMMUNIQUE ON 2-3 MAR IRANIAN BATTLE LOSSES

JN031724 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,017 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 3 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the clique of rancor and aggression. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our bold Air Force aircraft today attacked the enemy position and concentrations of personnel and vehicles in the areas opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector, scoring direct and effective hits. All our aircraft returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

2. Two were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

3. One hardware stockpile and one infantry position were destroyed east of Basra.

4. While carrying out its duties opposite our forward units' positions in the Maysan operational sector, one of our combat patrols found a number of light and medium weapons and a quantity of military equipment left by the enemy in the recent Ash-Shib battles.

5. Today, the spiteful Iranian regime shelled with artillery Basra, Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, and Zurbatiyah. The enemy's savage shelling destroyed 1 infirmary and 10 houses in Ash-Shihabi and wounded 1 citizen in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 March 1983

MA'RUF TO LEAD DELEGATION TO NONALIGNED SUMMIT

JN040758 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) -- It was announced here today that Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, Revolution Command Council member and vice president, will head the Iraqi delegation to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi next Monday.

An official source has told INA that Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, 'Ismat Kittani, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and other officials will be members of the delegation.

POLAND'S OBODOWSKI LEAVES BAGHDAD 3 MARCH

JN032006 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, and his delegation left Baghdad this evening at the end of a 4-day official visit to Iraq. Obodowski told INA that he had delivered a written message to President Saddam Husayn from the chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers concerning cooperation between the two countries and the means to promote it.

Obodowski expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of his visit and said that he held meetings with a number of Iraqi officials to discuss the developed cooperation in the various fields and follow up the Polish companies' implementation of development projects in Iraq. He was seen off by Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi, Planning Minister Samal Majid Faraj, several officials, and the Polish ambassador in Baghdad.

'SOURCE' ON PLO, POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS

JN040709 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 4 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] A responsible source has affirmed that Jordan is still committed to the Rabat summit's resolution, adding that Jordan, since then, continues to consider the PLO as the sole legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people. The source's affirmation explained Jordan's position in the wake of the PNC statement concerning U.S. President Ronald Reagan's initiative.

The source further explained: Based on this static position -- that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people -- Jordan will not join any negotiations without the PLO's approval.

The Jordanian source's affirmation is a decisive reply to all the rumors that have spread abroad, some of which were published in the foreign press, claiming that Jordan could be heading toward joining negotiations irrespective of the PLO's stand.

INDIAN VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES AFTER VISIT

JN031254 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Indian Vice President Mohammad Hidayatullah and his delegation left Amman today after a 4-day visit to Jordan, during which he had discussions with His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, and ranking Jordanian officials on means to promote cooperation between Jordan and India, issues related to the Nonaligned Summit Conference, which will convene in New Delhi on Monday, and on the Nonaligned Movement's role in solving international issues and realizing world peace.

He was seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, and the Indian ambassador in Amman.

'ARAR RETURNS HOME FROM SUDAN VISIT 3 MARCH

JN031257 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Excerpt] National Consultative Council Speaker Sulayman 'Arar returned to Amman this morning following a week-long visit to Sudan, during which he met with Sudanese President Ja'afar Numayri and addressed the Fourth SSU National Congress.

ARMED IRANIANS ARRIVE IN BA'LABAKK FROM SYRIA

NC040956 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Excerpts] The gunmen who attacked the Lebanese Army men at the Brital Crossroad have suffered three dead and three wounded -- one seriously. Also four Lebanese Army men were hit, including Colonel Ibrahim Shahin, and they were moved to the (Tall Shiha) hospital. The exchange of gunfire began at 0730 [0530 GMT] and began easing gradually before 1000, when Arab deterrent forces intervened.

Our reporter has learned that Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus has conferred the War Medal and the Medal of the Wounded on Colonel Ibrahim Shahin, the commander of the brigade and on the military personnel who were hit in this clash. He also passed a circular to the Army citing the action that has been taken by all the military personnel who have checked this act of aggression. Our reporter adds that at around 1045, gunmen tried to attack a Lebanese Army barracks in Ba'labakk. The local Army force repulsed them. It is worth noting that armed Iranian groups have arrived in Ba'labakk from Syria. Furthermore, Iranian reinforcements have been sighted on the Al-Hirmil road, but the reasons for this as yet are unclear.

ARMY COMMAND STATEMENT ON CLASH IN AL-BIQA'

NC040923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Statement issued by the Army Command 4 March]

[Text] While an Army force was on its way to the At-Tayyibah firing range in Al-Biqa' to hold a military exercise, it came under fire from an ambush. The clash resulted in the following:

Four Army men were wounded, including Colonel Ibrahim Shahin. They were moved to a hospital for treatment. Three of the gunmen were killed and three others were wounded, one of them seriously. They are being treated in the hospital. The Arab deterrent forces intervened, and the situation is tending toward calm. The Army commander has awarded the War Medal and the Wounded Medal to Col Ibrahim Shahin, the brigade commander, and the soldiers who were wounded in the clash. He paid tribute to all the soldiers who confronted the attack.

KUNA REPORTS ON JUNBLATT ASSASSINATION RUMORS

LD031237 Kuwait KUNA in English 1023 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Beirut, March 3 (KUNA) -- A wave of panic swept Lebanon Thursday in the wake of an Israeli-generated rumor that over-all leftist leader Walid Junblatt was assassinated. However, Junblatt, according to a statement by his "progressive Socialist Party" [PSP] had "left for Amman, Jordan, and is safe and sound." The PSP's statement "categorically" denied the rumor and urged the Muslim citizens to "call off" spontaneous strikes that followed the "fabricated" report. KUNA stringer in Sidon, the southern Lebanese provincial capital 45 kilometers from Beirut, said the rumor first generated in the Israeli-occupied territory "shortly before dawn."

The stringer, who phoned his report to the KUNA Beirut bureau, couldn't accurately detect how the rumor generated in Sidon. However, a ranking Lebanese security official told KUNA in a telephone interview that "cars with loudspeakers toured densely-populated mostly Muslim residential neighborhoods of Sidon before dawn, claiming that Walid Junblatt was assassinated."

The whole (?car spree), according to the official who refused to be identified, "lasted for not more than 10 minutes, after which the cars vanished as the natives started reporting what they heard to neighbors, relatives and friends."

The official attributed his information to "wireless reports from the regional police department in Sidon." Israeli occupation soldiers, who man a major checkpoint at Sidon's northern entrance along the Al-Awali bridge along with right-wing Christian militiamen of renegade Lebanese Major Sa'd Haddad, "also took part in boosting the rumor's alleged credibility," the official explained.

Israeli soldiers and Haddad's militiamen, who man the Al-Awali checkpoint 40 kilometers south of Beirut, told motorists and travellers that they better not head for Beirut because "Junblatt was assassinated and the road may not be safe," the official said.

The Israelis and Haddad's men "concentrated such efforts on Christian natives who tried to drive to Beirut from southern Lebanon," said the official who quoted unidentified travellers as saying "the Israelis asked for Christian occupants of taxi cars and advised them in particular not to drive across Druze territory because Junblatt was assassinated and his followers may resort to violence."

Junblatt's traditional stronghold of the Ash-Shuf Province separates the southern Lebanese province from Beirut. The predominantly Druze province is mainly under the control of Junblatt's PSP militiamen. Natives of Sidon, the Ash-Shuf Province and some schools of Beirut's mostly Muslem western sector went into an immediate, though spontaneous, strike as the rumor was mushrooming, according to KUNA stringer. The PSP statement noted that "some armed men" took to the streets in the Ash-Shuf Province following spread of the rumor, adding however that "no acts of violence were reported due to intensified efforts by regional officials of the party who toured villages of the Ash-Shuf Province denying the rumor."

The police official told KUNA the force's communications department has "monitored a radio message addressed from command of the Lebanese Forces [LF] to its regional offices advising the Christians to remain in their villages and ordering a precautionary state of alert in the Lebanese forces."

The LF is a Phalange-led alliance of right-wing Christian militias. It has been at longgerheads with leftist Druze fighters of Junblatt's PSP since the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war in 1975. The police official explained that the LF radio message "may have been released in light of the rumor to avoid friction and revenge killings between the Druze and Christians had the reported assassination been true."

Clashes between Druze fighters and LF militiamen in the Israeli-occupied eastern mountain resort of 'Alayh subsidized last February following the signing of an Israel-sponsored "security pact between the Christian and Druze communities." However, sporadic acts of violence were intermittently reported between the traditional foes in the Israel-occupied mountainous region east and southeast of Beirut.

The PSP, in a statement published Thursday, threatened to re-consider the "security pact" with the LF and charged "phalangist militiamen" of abducting "five Druzes and killing a Druze clergyman" at the Christian hamlet of Kahhaleh, middleway between Beirut and 'Alayh.

The LF, on its part, issued a statement Thursday accusing Druze fighters in 'Alayh of abducting two Christian natives for five hours. The two, according to the LF statement, were "badly beaten and tortured," the Druzes released them following high-level contacts."

Junblatt Denies Assassination Attempt

JN031616 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, has denied the rumors which were circulated in Lebanon today on an attempt on his life. This denial came in a telephone conversation we had with him a short time ago. Junblatt is currently in Amman.

SPOKESMAN MAKES STATEMENT AT NETANYA TALKS

NC031248 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1152 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Netanya -- live]

[Text] The official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, a few moments ago made the following statement about the progress of the tripartite negotiations.

[Begin recording] The committees today discussed the subjects according to their area of competence. Ah the meeting of the committee on ending the state of war, Ambassador Fattal stressed that Lebanon originally entered the negotiations for the sake of achieving the Israeli withdrawal, nothing else. At the committee on mutual relations, the measures which the Lebanese Army Command adopted yesterday concerning illegal ports and imports of foreign goods and the need for the customs authorities to exercise their duties were the subject of an enqiry on the part of the Israeli side. The Lebanese side replied that this matter concerns the Lebanese authority, that the measures reflect on the Lebanese territory and people and that their scope involves that of exercising Lebanese sovereignty. At the military committee, the Lebanese side raised the question of the withdrawals and asked for a timetable. The U.S. side also sought to bring the views closer. [end recording]

This was the statement made by the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, concerning the results of the four committees -- the political, military, mutual relations, and the trade committee. We will provide you with any new results of the meetings to be held this afternoon after the delegations have their lunch.

More From As-Sayigh

NC031732 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] After the conclusion of the meetings, which were resumed [in Netanya] this afternoon, Lebanese spokesman Dr Dawud as-Sayigh said:

[Begin recording] If we want to sum up today's work, [we can say] it was a confirmation of the basic positions. The Lebanese delegation affirmed, in the various committees, that the withdrawals are Lebanon's first priority. Lebanon entered the negotiations as head of the delegation, Dr Fattal said, with a view to bringing about the withdrawals. This was also raised by members of the military delegation in the withdrawals and security arrangements committee when they demanded a timetable for the Israeli withdrawal.

Apart from this, the talks continued according to the agenda in a normal manner. The U.S. delegation exerted its usual efforts in an attempt to narrow the difference in views. The next meeting will be held in Khaldah on Tuesday, 8 March. [end recording]

Operations Staff Assess Negotiations

NC031919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The 20th round of negotiations in Netanya today was characterized by heightened [bi tas'idin] and sharp discussions on the subjects of security arrangements and the framework for mutual relations.

At its meeting in the Republican Palace this evening, which was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister De Elie Salim, and the negotiating delegation led by Dr Antoine Fattal, member of the political operations room assessed the results of the Netanya meeting and what was achieved in today's negotiations -- the negotiations which were characterized by a sort of heightened [naw'min at-tas'id] and sharp discussion on the subjects of security arrangements and the framework for mutual relations.

Flexibility in the positions still awaits the results of U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib's efforts. He is scheduled to meet in Israel tomorrow with the ministerial team entrusted with supervising the tripartite negotiations. The Lebanese officials expect Habib to return to Beirut if he was able to achieve positive results in his talks with the Israeli officials.

Sources View Negotiations

NC040812 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Chairman of the mutual relations committee, Ambassador Ibrahim Kharama, has affirmed that yesterday's round of negotiations witnessed heightened differences on basic principles. He told the Israeli side in the committee meeting: If you want, through the open door in the South, to achieve an imbalance in the Lebanese market, this is rejected. Lebanon, through the negotiations, is seeking to correct a wrong situation.

A Lebanese source has pointed out that the Israeli side rejected most of the Lebanese proposals on security arrangements and mutual relations and insisted on its basic demands. The discussions in this regard are taking place in a vicious circle. Lebanon cannot accept and concede to Israeli demands, because they touch on the core of Lebanon's existence.

The source disclosed that the new measures taken by the Lebanese Army to assume control of the illegal ports and to stop smuggling and confiscate smuggled goods were raised in the discussions. The Lebanese side argued that these measures are not directed against anyone; they are meant to protect the Lebanese and the Lebanese consumer.

A responsible source has affirmed that Lebanon is determined to be an independent and sovereign state which exercises its authority. It is also determined to conduct the negotiations with all sides on the basis that there is an independent and sovereign Lebanese Government.

Anyhow, as it can be noticed, the negotiations, despite what happened, have not reached a deadlock. What is required now, in order to avoid a deadlock and a suspension of the negotiations, is for Israel to relinquish its intransigent positions and recognize Lebanon's full right to independence and sovereignty over all its territory.

As it is clear now, the work in the committees is taking place on the basis of contradictory views. The Lebanese side bases its position on the withdrawals, while the Israeli side bases its position on mutual relations and raises complex subjects, such as normalization, diplomatic and trade exchange, and so forth.

With this knot, which has so far been difficult to resolve, a big question appears: Where is the role of U.S. diplomacy and the efforts of U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib?

Informed sources have said that Habib will meet at 0830 today with the Israeli ministerial committee overseeing the negotiations with Lebanon. Habib will decide his course of action on the basis of this meeting. Either he will come to Lebanon or stay in Israel for a while. He may also travel to California to meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during a function organized by a club in California which is chaired by Habib.

VISIT BY ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI POSTPONED

NC021424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Concerning the visit of Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to Lebanon, which was due to take place this coming Friday, it has been agreed to postpone it until after the Nonaligned Summit Conference. The visit was discussed today between Foreign Minister Salim and the Arab League secretary general's representative Hammad as-Sid.

Before leaving Beirut airport for Tunis, As-Sid made a statement in which he said:

[Begin recording] After all the reports about the secretary general's visit, I came to discuss this visit with the Foreign Ministry and to prepare for it. It has been agreed that this visit will take place after the Nonaligned Conference in New Delhi. This will naturally create room for holding productive talks outlining the Lebanese situation after this international meeting. Talks will likewise then deal with what assistance the Arab League can possibly extend in serving the Lebanese question.

AL-WAZZAN ON ATTENDANCE AT NONALIGNED SUMMIT

NC031438 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Emerging from his office this afternoon, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said in in reply to a question about Lebanon's participation in the Nonaligned Summit Conference: Our participation in the conference stems from our desire to project ourselves in the world, to take the opportunity of our presence to explain the Lebanese problem in international forums, and to hold contacts with all the heads of the delegations taking part in the conference which are interested in our issue and which can help us.

REFUGEE CAMP RESIDENTS REPORTEDLY FORM MILITIA

NC041008 Marj'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0930 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] According to reports in Lebanon newspapers, residents of 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon have set up their own militia, which received its arms from Israel. The Lebanese reports say that the militia head is a Palestinian named 'Abdallah Nasir. The reports say that 200 people have been recruited and equipped with Kalashnikov rifles received from Israel. Sources in 'Ayn al-Hulwah say no more than 50 people have joined the militia.

TISHRIN ON U.S. REACTION TO MISSILE ISSUE

JN040917 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0835 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Damascus, 4 Mar (SANA) -- In an editorial headline: "The Anxiety of Washington," TISHRIN says: The influx of U.S. weapons to Israel and Israel's acts of aggression and expansionist wars generated no U.S. worries over the possibility of a major conflagration in the Middle East, but when Syria resorted to building up its air defenses and modernizing its weapons, this was met with cries of denunciation and anxiety in Washington and Tel Aviv.

TISHRIN points out that Syria's steps to marshal its potential and fend off any possible harm are, from the U.S.-Zionist perspective, a factor of anxiety and destabilization. However, according to the U.S. standpoint, the Camp David peace, Egypt's departure from the Arab family and the encroachment on its independence, the expansion of the Camp David plot to incorporate the Jordanian regime and some Palestinian agents, the distraction of the Iraqi Army from the battle of confrontation with the Zionist enemy, and the establishment of an Iraqi-Jordanian-Egyptian axis to propagate the liquidatory Reagan plan, are all factors of stability and positive development.

Concluding its editorial, TISHRIN says: Syria will continue to warn often of the consequences of any anticipated Zionist aggression. Syria's reply will be quite definite, particularly since the aggression aims at peddling the capitulation of some Arab rulers, at consolidating the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, and at undermining the [Arab] nation's effectiveness and existence.

DAMASCUS RADIO CITES APN ON THREATS AGAINST SYRIA

JN031540 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Soviet news agency APN has affirmed that the U.S. game played in Lebanon will not be allowed to be repeated in Syria. It also said: The Israeli aggressors and their protectors in Washington should be fully aware that Syria will not allow U.S. planes, which take off from bases of aggression in Israel, to fly freely over Syria to spread death and destruction on its territory.

The agency noted the propaganda campaign being launched by the U.S. secretaries of state and defense concerning Syrian defensive capabilities and refuted Zionist-U.S. allegations, asserting that these methods might undermine stability in the Middle East. It also said: Washington and Tel Aviv are trying to repeat the game in Syria, but Syria has all means to confront the aggressors and teach them the appropriate lesson. The news agency concluded: Syria is an independent, sovereign state and has the right to strengthen its defenses on all levels in order to protect its land and people.

LIBYA'S JALLUD LEAVES DAMASCUS AFTER 4-DAY VISIT

JN032028 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2010 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Damascus, 3 Mar (SANA) -- Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution leadership in Libya, left Damascus this afternoon for home after a 4-day visit to Syria during which he was received by President Hafiz al-Asad.

Major Jallud held talks with party and government officials on bilateral relations and the means to promote them. He was seen off at Damascus airport by Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and director of the party's External Relations Bureau.

BEGIN: SAM-5'S IN SYRIA ENDANGER ISAREL, U.S.

TA030721 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Mar 83 p 1

[Report by Judy Siegel]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin called the Russian-manned SA-5 anti-aircraft missiles in Syria a danger to both Israel and the American Sixth Fleet. "Let us hope that they don't use them," he added.

Speaking at a meeting of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, Begin said that he hopes the missiles pose only a political threat and not a military one.

The premier, who answered questions after a short address to the Israeli and Diaspora board members, also said that it is a "national consensus" in Israel that Christian militia commander Major Sa'd Haddad should remain in south Lebanon.

He accepted congratulations from United Jewish Appeal Chairman Robert Loup for Israel's quick implementation of the Khan Commission recommendations, saying that it was "painful," and that although they were "only recommendations," the government was morally bound to implement them.

Deleagtion May Go to Washington

TA040712 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] In view of the deepening Soviet intervention in Syria, Jerusalem is considering the possibility of dispatching a high-level delegation to Washington in order to coordinate positions. This is reported by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel. Jersualem circles have expressed apprehension in view of the reports emanating from Damascus and Moscow on alleged Israeli offensive intentions.

[Begin Frankel recording] Following the months of dispute on the question of Lebanon, it looks as though the increased Soviet involvement in the Middle East has again placed both Washington and Jerusalem on the same side of the fence. The cumulative reports on the Soviet presence in Syria arouse concern in Israel and the United States alike. This is the background against which an effort has recently been made to effect a dialogue. Jerusalem was concerned also by expressions made in Damascus and Moscow about Israeli offensive intentions, so to speak. Political circles have been asking themselves what these warnings may indicate in terms of the intentions of the Soviets and Syrians themselves.

There are many possible answers to this question, and the assumption that this is an act of provocation is not ruled out -- in other words, that Moscow is trying the policy of brinkmanship, possibly even to test the effectiveness of Soviet arms in the Middle East testing grounds. In view of this, Jerusalem is anticipating stepped up political talks with the United States. Recently, the possibility has been raised of considering sending a delegation to Washington to be headed by a key political figure. The delegation is to coordinate positions with the United States, mainly in the realm of the efforts to solve the Lebanon problem.

Cabinet members believe that the dialogue with Washington will also feature prominently in Defense Minister Moshe Arens' political order of priorities. This estimation may express nothing new, but according to the ministers, it has received further reinforcement in the wake of Arens' first week in office.

While on the political level, let us also mention that Israel has recently been showing readiness to find a compromise on the security arrangements for southern Lebanon. Political sources have repeated several times in the last few weeks that Israel is prepared to consider new suggestions. The solution currently under discussion is joint patrols in southern Lebanon shared by the IDF and the Lebanese Army, to substitute for the permanent observation points in the security strip. Jerusalem sources last week gave rise to the understanding that this formula is acceptable to Israel. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON NEGOTIATIONS IN NETANYA 3 MARCH

Talks at Crossroads

TA031607 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1557 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Israeli-Lebanese negotiations are at a crossroads. This was stated today by Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche at the beginning of the talks in Netanya. Kimche said that the Israeli delegation is still awaiting Lebanon's proposals for interim arrangements in the normalization field. He emphasized that Israel will not agree to an interim arrangement more limited in scope than the final arrangement. In the course of the talks in Netanya today experts on both sides discussed questions relating to the passage of people and goods between the two countries. In the deliberations of the military committee, Israel repeated its demand [tevi'ata] to set up five observation posts in southern Lebanon.

IDF May Patrol South

TA031626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The spokesman of the Lebanese delegation to the talks with Israel has said that Lebanon may agree to allow IDF forces to enter southern Lebanon to conduct periodic control patrols instead of having an Israeli presence at warning stations. The Lebanese spokesman said after the delegations met in Netanya that for the first time there was also optimism in his delegation that it will be possible to reach an agreement. Our correspondent Roni Daniyel has reported that the delegations discussed military and normalization matters today.

Talks Reviewed

TA031757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] At the Dan Hotel in Netanya another meeting between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations ended late this afternoon with an optimistic statement by the Lebanese delegation about the prospects of achieving a settlement. Meanwhile, the Israeli delegation refrained from describing the atmosphere as optimistic. Today the delegations dealt with all the matters connected with the security arrangements and civilian matters, including the exchange of goods and peoples between the two countries. Our correspondent Roni Daniyel reports.

[Begin Daniyel recording] When the plenary session opened, Israeli chairman David Kimche said that Israel wants the Lebanese team to state exactly what Lebanon wants in these negotiations. Israel does not intend to buy a cat in a sack, and the agreement must be clear and well-defined. These remarks apparently were made against the background of Philip Habib's latest compromise proposals, one of whose salient elements was refraining from signing joint documents and preferring oral agreements over concrete agreements.

A toast was held to mark Morris Draper's birthday, and against the backdrop of the beginning of this report one of the participants said that at this pace everyone would celebrate many birthdays here.

The conclusion of the Netanya meeting was somewhat surprising. For the first time since the talks began, the Lebanese spokesman described the mood of his delegation as optimistic. In his briefing of Lebanese journalists, he even referred to the warning stations, one of the main subjects of dispute. Israel, the Lebanese spokesman said, raised a demand for five warning stations. There is a possibility, he said, that Lebanon will agree to allow Israeli forces to enter southern Lebanon according to an agreed on plan to conduct control patrols, in lieu of an IDF presence at warning stations.

The Israeli spokesman, Avi Pazner, was less optimistic than his Lebanese counterpart. Israel, he said, demanded maximal detailing of Lebanon's intentions, and stressed that the importance of IDF soldiers at the observation points is connected with the need to keep southern Lebanon free of terrorists also after the evacuation of Lebanon.

HA'ARETZ on Problems in Talks

TA031155 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Mar 83 p 9

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "A Crossroads in the Lebanon Negotiations"]

[Text] These days what is being deliberated at the Khaldah negotiating table is what remains of the broad objectives set by Sharon in engaging Israel in the war in Lebanon. The negotiations have been underway for over 5 and 1/2 months in various forms, and we have now reached a crossroads: If we want, it would be possible to sign an agreement in a very short time. It depends on Israel and Lebanon alike, but primarily on us. The new defense minister, Moshe Arens, may decide to accelerate the negotiations and be the true harbinger that an agreement has been achieved. If he does so, he will immediately win many compliments including some from the IDF, but it is precisely because of that that Sharon may sabotage his move.

The immediate problem we face is whether it would be possible to get better conditions by continuing to insist on our demands, or whether this stubbornness could lead to conflict with the United States and further erosion of the chances for achievements. Today, for example, it is already clear that the procrastination Sharon brought about last October because of his demand that the talks be held in Jerusalem was damaging, as was the loss of time while the Syrians were still sufferring from the shock of the war, and while the opposition to an agreement in Lebanon was not yet organized.

A summary of the talks today will not be registered as a failure, although the fruit of the negotiations are far from what Sharon wished to achieve when we went to war. Still, the negotiating team, headed by Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, managed to score some achievements. Thus, it was agreed that Israel will have an office in Beirut. It will not be an official diplomatic representation, but a kind of liaison office which he will share with the Lebanese delegation. This achievement triggers some hope that it may be possible to develop in the future a relationship with Lebanon that would resemble the ties we had with Iran under the shah. For the moment, things are complex and full of internal contradictions. On the one hand, the Lebanese delegation to the talks is not prepared to officially revoke its participation in the Arab boycott of Israel, but on the other hand it is ready to grant diplomatic immunity to the Israeli representatives who will staff the Beirut liaison office.

The Lebanese inclination is to postpone and abstain from recording some of the things Lebanon is prepared to give Israel. On the matter of normalization and the transfer of goods, for instance, they are proposing delaying the agreement by an additional 6 months, during which time they are promising de facto normalization; but, Israel insists that things be stated now as to what precisely will be included in the first stage of the de facto normalization.

The Lebanese want to regulate things under the counter saying that Israel is not taking into consideration the fact that the agreement must be ratified by the Lebanese parliament, in which there are many who oppose peace or arrangements with Israel. In addition to this, the agreement will have to withstand Arab world, especially Syrian, criticism.

The security arrangements in southern Lebanon, in which Israel has a vital interest and which will determine whether or not quiet prevails along the northern border in the future, have likewise not yet been finalized. Some important subjects have been settled to Israel's satisfaction, others have remained open, and even it we reach an agreement over them, there is no telling how they might develop. One important subject over which there is understanding and agreement [haskama] is the continuation of Israeli Air Force reconnaissance and patrol flights over Lebanon, and the ban on the introduction of heavy arms into southern Lebanon. But then some elementary things like the question of where precisely the bounds of the 45-km security region would be have not yet been settled. The Lebanese measure the distance from the international border, consequently reaching the area of the Al-'Awwali River north of Sidon. Israel demands that the distance be measured from Metulla, which is Israel's northernmost tip, and thus the security area reaches Ad-Damur in the western sector. The question of whether the thousands of detainees from Ansar would return to their homes in Lebanon after their release or whether they would go to Syria as terrorists who evacuated Beirut is also unresolved. It they go back to the southern Lebanon refugee camps, for example, we can rest assured that the terrorist infrastructure would grow in a very short time.

Two important issues that are considered major stumbling blocks are the UNIFIL presence in southern Lebanon and the early warning stations. While Israel seeks to terminate UNIFIL's presence in southern Lebanon, the United States, Lebanon, and the PLO want the UN forces to play a role there. As a result of the Sabra and Shatila massacre, Israel is encountering problems in presenting its position. During the negotiations for the terrorists' evacuation from Beirut, the PLO demanded that the UN units guarantee the safety of the Beirut refugee camps through coordination with the Lebanese Government and the PLO. Israel strongly objected to this and the tragic end of the story is known to all. Now the PLO says that it will not repeat the same mistake again. It wants an international presence in the refugee camps in the south and are not satisfied with just a U.S. presence. It says that there is absolutely no room to discuss their withdrawal from Tripoli and Al-Biqa' without such an arrangement. The Americans do not support them and say that in view of the experience of Sabra and Shatila, the Lebanese Army should secure the camps in the south, and that UNIFIL units will join it. Whereas regarding the Beirut camps the Israeli insistence was unnecessary as the subsequent development proved, now the Israeli representatives argue that a PLO infrastructure will be reestablished in the refugee camps near the border under the aegis of UNIFIL.

Regarding the early warning stations, we have gone through a number of transformations, from early warning to bases, and now they are called observation posts [tatzpiyot]. All these names are nothing but a cover for Israel's desire to continue to maintain a certain military presence in southern Lebanon. When the issue in question is war against terrorism, these observation stations have little significance or weight. Their contribution to the Shin Bet, which must apprehend suspects in terrorist cases, question them and enforce the law, is virtually nonexistent. The presence we need to combat terrorism should not be based on observation stations or be in large bases. The Lebanese Government does not want any permanent Israeli presence in combatting terrorism. At most it would accept joint IDF-Lebanese army patrols in the southern part of the country.

The Americans, too, want to push us out of southern Lebanon, both in order to reinstate Lebanese sovereignty and because it is clear to them that without us out, there is no chance of evicting the Syrians and the other PLO units from Lebanon.

This is why neither the Lebanese nor the Americans want the IDF to have permanent liaison officers with Haddad's forces, to train the unit being set up in the south. The IDF continues to help establish this force knowing that if we are not allowed to maintain liaison officers, it would only be a question of time before that force disintegrates and loses affinity to Israel. This will definitely be so seeing that Haddad will ultimately be forced to accept a promotion and leave the region for another post, like an ambassador.

These are outstanding problems between us and the Lebanese. Supposing we even manage to settle all of them, the question relating to Syria will nevertheless remain open. Will Damascus agree to withdraw from Lebanon, and what will it demand in return? What will the Syrians ask of Lebanon if it gives too much to Israel in the south and in general? Hence, we must anticipate further erosion even if we do reach an agreement with the Lebanese Government. If the negotiations run aground, it will make sense for us to concentrate on the south and accept a disengagement of forces between the IDF and the Syrians, but here we find ourselves in the ironic situation where the Americans, pressuring us to withdraw soon, do not want too swift a pullout from the Ash-Shuf hills, before the Lebanese Army is prepared to take on responsibility for it. Washington is not prepared to work today for a disengagement of forces between the IDF and the Syrians also because this partial move will indirectly result in the perpetuation of the presence of all the foreign forces in Lebanon.

The crossroads we have come to in the talks with Lebanon show that we are still a long way off from attaining even some of the war's objectives, including those pertaining to the defense of Israel's northern border. Even what is achieved will have to pass the test of time, and only after a year or two will it be possible to judge it properly. Defense Minister Moshe Arens has the opportunity to speed up the negotiations and leave problematic regions in Lebanon more quickly. Although this was not the previous defense minister's approach, Arens will be well advised to employ this new method both for military and for public reasons, even though one of the working papers drawn up by the national security unit recently says quite openly that the realization of the positive outcome of the war is now conditional upon adamant and firm stand on our policy, which will guarantee that the PLO, all of its organizations, and all foreign forces will leave Lebanon.

Compromise on Observation Posts

TA031225 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 Mar 83 p 2

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Jerusalem's most senior level is now revising the Israeli approach to all the elements of the security arrangements and normalization with Lebanon. This has emerged from remarks made yesterday by Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Appearing before a session of the Jewish Agency Board of Trustees, Begin was asked whether Israel was as insistent as ever in its positions regarding the observations posts in southern Lebanon.

The prime minister replied that he could not comment on the issue at this time because substantial clarifications on the matter were currently underway.

It now seems that Israel will be willing to discuss other security alternatives to the observation stations if defense experts decide that these alternatives will substantially ensure security.

Meanwhile, the dispute with the Beirut authorities over the entry of two UNIFIL battalions into southern Lebanon to secure the camp inhabitants persists. Israel believes that transferring control over the camps to UNIFIL is a "sure recipe for numerous attacks on the refugees."

Solutions have not yet been found regarding the issue of normalization between Israel and Lebanon and there is not even as much as an understanding on the question of implementing normalization for an interim period.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE CITED ON EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

TA031501 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1451 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The PLO representative in Geneva, Nabil ar-Ramlawi, today expressed the hope that exchange of prisoners will soon take place between Israel and the PLO. In a television interview in Switzerland, Ar-Ramlawi said he is content with the negotiations on this issue so far. He noted that in return for the release of the IDF soldiers held by the PLO, the organization demands [tove'a] the release of 1,000 terrorists detained in Israel.

TABAH TALKS CONCLUDE IN ISMAILIA 3 MARCH

TA031458 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1451 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Another round of talks between the Israeli and Egyptian representatives on the Tabah dispute has ended in Ismailia. Egyptian sources told the AP correspondent in Cairo that only little progress was made. The head of the Egyptian delegation stated that the two sides again clarified their positions regarding Tabah.

Toward the end of the month the Israeli-Egyptian talks will resume on promoting trade relations between the two countries and other issues connected with normalizing relations between Cairo and Jerusalem.

Delegations Discuss Terrorism

TA031619 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The commander of the Southern Command, Major General Hayim Erez, disclosed today that in the Israeli-Egyptian talks in Ismailia the parties discussed the incident in which five bedouin were killed at the end of last week. The Israeli delegation asked the Egyptians to make every effort to discover the people who planted the mines. Our correspondent in the south, Tzvi 'Alush, reports:

[Begin recording] The commander of the Southern Command, Maj Gen Erez, disclosed a short while ago that those who planted the mines that last week caused the death of five bedouin arrived from Egypt. During a visit of condolences he held with the families of the killed bedouin belonging to the (Al-'Azazmah) tribe in the Negev, the commander promised that those who planted the mines will be caught and punished. The commander also disclosed that in the wake of the disaster, reports reached the Southern Command by Negev bedouin who discovered mines. The mines were located and dismantled and luckily it transpired these were training [tirgul] mines. Maj Gen Erez lauded the alertness of the bedouin and called for tighter cooperation between them and the security forces.

The commander of the Southern Command added that the Egyptians in the past cooperated in the attempt to prevent the terrorists' entry and that recently they submitted to Israel a list of hundreds of stolen vehicles discovered in Egypt, asking which of these vehicles belong to Israelis.

The leader of the (Al-'Azazmah) tribe, Shaykh 'Awdah abu 'Ammar, spiritedly thanked the commander of the Southern Command and promised that the bedouin will do everything they can to help the security forces curb the terrorists. In our identification cards we are noted down as Israelis and the terrorists do not distinguish between Jewish and bedouin blood, and therefore we should all unite in face of the danger, the shaykh said.

At the end of the visit the commander of the Southern Command invited the shaykh for a visit at his office. [end recording]

Differences on Tabah Reported

TA040518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The Israeli delegation to the talks over Tabah that began in Ismailia maintained that in the 9 months that have passed since the talks with Egypt were halted, a new situation has been created in Tabah and Israel wants to make sure that life will continue there without disturbances. The Egyptian delegation announced its opposition to the presence of an Israeli police force unit in Tabah and demanded that the Multinational Force be in charge of security affairs. Egypt also opposes to the operation of the Sonesta Hotel. Our representative to the talks, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that the contacts and deliberations will continue, and the committees to regulate the trade connections between the two countries will also meet in the middle of the month in Egypt.

Schiffer on Talks

TA040408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The talks between Israeli and Egyptian representatives are to continue and the two countries' commercial committees will meet in Egypt in 2 weeks to discuss the situation regarding the bilateral trade agreements. This was announced last night by the heads of the delegations who discussed the Tabah problems in Ismailia for the past 2 days. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, who was in Ismailia, reports:

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] The talks in Ismailia constituted the opening move in the attempt to renew the dialogue between the two countries in view of the fact that they have been frozen for the past 6 months. The issues that were selected for debate and discussion were first finding interim arrangements for the Tabah area, and then the normalization agreements.

The Egyptians tried not to link the two issues and emphasized in public the need to find a solution for Tabah. This is how the Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister Shafi 'Abd al-Hamid summed up the talks to us when we talked last night:

['Abd Al-Hamid -- in English] First of all, we have confined this issue, this question to the 25th of April agreement. There will be another talks, I believe the two governments agreed that they will be held on the 14th, but as you know there is no linkage between the two talks.

[Schiffer translates the above into Hebrew and continues] The Israeli side, too, came out satisfied. As stated, in accordance with a scenario developed prior to the talks in Ismailia, the two countries' trade committees will meet in Egypt in the middle of the month to discuss the predicament of their trade agreements. The head of the Israeli delegation to the talks, Mr Divon, Foreign Ministry Assistant Director General, said:

[Divon] The importance of that meeting lay in the fact that this was the beginning of a series of meetings and the resumption of a dialogue between Israel and Egypt following a very long break. We have once again embarked on the road of dialogue and negotiations. We are now facing a long series of meetings.

[Schiffer] This refers to implementing the agreement signed on the eve of the final evacuation of Sinai, which stipulated that life in the area will continue exactly as it was prior to the withdrawal, with no changes.

The multinational force was to have assumed responsibility for security in the region, pending the agreement of both parties. The Egyptians oppose the continued Israel police presence in the area or the operation of the Sonesta Hotel. The Israeli side made it clear that the freeze in the past 9 months created a new situation. Israel will allow the Multinational Force and Observers [MFO] to enter Tabah separately and in addition to the authority the Israeli Police have in that place.

To sum up, something that can still not be properly evaluated in depth occurred in Ismailia: It is not clear where the Egyptians are heading. There is no doubt that the disappointment and anger over the PLO's conduct in its latest conference in Algiers toward Cairo served as a catalyst that led to the renewed dialogue between Israel and Egypt. [end recording]

EYTAN ON SYRIAN SAM-5'S, WEST BANK VIOLENCE

TA031817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan interviewed by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Chief of Staff, how are the warnings being sounded by the Syrians and the Soviets that Israel is about to attack the missiles to be interpreted? They are even saying from which direction Israel plans to attack.

[Answer] First of all, Israel has no intention of attacking the missiles. I do not know on what basis they interpret or point to such intentions. They may simply be making mistaken assessments or perhaps through such talk they are covering their own intentions.

[Question] What do you mean?

[Answer] That they are creating public opinion that Israel is about to attack, as it were, and under the aegis of this propaganda they may take some initiative.

[Question] Is such an action to be expected?

[Answer] One need not rule it out as a possibility.

[Question] What is the Americans' position on this matter? Are they coordinating positions with us?

[Answer] We do not have to coordinate positions with them, we and the Americans are aware of this matter.

[Question] How is one to interpret the Syrian threats against Jordan, that Syria would not hesitate to attack Jordan?

[Answer] It may be that they fear a Jordanian move toward talks with Israel and this will further isolate Syria.

[Question] How is one to regard the reawakening of terrorist or hostile activity in Judaea and Samaria, the daily stone throwing [interrupted]

[Answer] Today three stones were thrown, and tomorrow they will surely throw three more. So what? It is true that they throw stones, and they riot a little here and there. But I do not think that today this is any worse than it was in the past.

Additional Report

TA040623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Israel has no intention of attacking the missiles the Soviet Union has stationed in Syria, the SAM-5's, in contrast to the reports emanating from Damascus, Chief of Staff lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan said last night, adding that the United States and Israel see eye to eye on Syria's allegations. On this issue the two countries maintain daily contact, the chief of staff said.

[Begin Eytan recording] For some reason, the Syrians and the Soviets think that Israel will attack the missiles the Russians brought in and activated. They think so, and the Syrians believe it. Now a devil's dance begins with each party trying to show the other or supply proof -- that is the Syrians and the Soviets -- that this is truly what is about to happen. This has no foundation in reality, but they still create a distorted picture alleging that Israel may initiate something. In such a situation, someone may make a mistake. We are also very careful not to create a situation that might be mistaken for what they think should be expected from us. This is one side. On the other hand, they may deliberately -- knowing that we are not planning to attack -- create such a scene so that it could serve as an alibi for them should they decide to do something against us at their initiative. [end recording]

Gen Eytan was speaking last night at the Club for the Aged in Jerusalem.

SHAMIR: SETTLEMENTS WILL NOT BE FROZEN

TA031255 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 4 Mar 83 p 9

[Report by Adar Qeysari]

[Text] "Israel will not cease settling Jews in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District for even 1 day," Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told YOMAN HASHAVU'A.

The foreign minister said: "The issue of settling [hityashvut vehitnahalut] in Eretz Yisra'el is the essence of our being. There is no question of conceding anything here. None of us imagines that this is at all conceivable. We will accept no preconditions and especially not the demand for any freeze of the settlements."

Question: If Husayn gives up his preconditions and enters into negotiations with us, and only later as the negotiations are going on, asks us to freeze the settlements, how will Israel react?

Answer: Whether Husayn demands [yitba'] that we freeze the settlement of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza as a precondition for his entering into negotiations or raises this demand in one of the stages of the negotiations, our reply will always be: "We will not freeze the settlements for even 1 day!" If we had complied with the demand and frozen settlement in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District for even a short period of time, this would have been the beginning of our submission, our conceding our right to live and reside in Eretz Yisra'el."

"Even during my latest visit in the FRG," the foreign minister added. "The demand was raised that the settlements be stopped so as to ease things for the peace process. My answer was simple: It is sensible and legitimate to conduct negotiations on the status of one region or another which one element or another has demands on. We maintain Israeli sovereignty over Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. The Arabs' position is different, of course, but what is outside any argument or logic is the refusal to recognize our right to live in any part of Eretz Yisra'el and the demand that we give up this right for even 1 day. There is no room to discuss such a demand. We will not enter into negotiations with Jordan on this basis."

NAVON URGES JORDAN TO JOIN PEACE PROCESS

TA031203 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 Mar 83 p 2

[Report by Gad Becker]

[Text] President Yitzhaq Navon yesterday said that Jordan would be well advised to join the peace process without any preconditions.

In a meeting with Norwegian Foreign Minister Svenn Stray, who is visiting in Israel, Navon said that setting preconditions for the opening of negotiations is currently unrealistic. The guest, who arrived in Jerusalem after visits in Cairo and Amman, said he got the impression that Jordan is willing to join the peace process although he realized that the conditions set by Jordan are difficult for Israel.

Stray quoted statements by Egyptian leaders, including President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ali, to the effect that Egypt adheres to the peace process but it had no other choice but to freeze its relations with Israel as long as the IDF remains in Lebanon because, according to them, Egypt is an inseparable part of the Arab world.

HUSAYN NOT TO JOIN TALKS UNTIL END OF MARCH

TA031026 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 Mar 83 p 1, 6

[Report from London by Yohanan Lahav]

[Text] Husayn will drop his intention to join the peace process and President Reagan's initiative if the questions delaying his joining the talks are not resolved by the end of this month, sources who met with the Jordanian monarch last week told me.

Husayn has already made it clear that he would join negotiations with Israel under the following conditions: That Israel freeze the settlements, at least for the duration of the negotiations; that Palestinians participate in the talks at least as part of the Jordanian delegation to the negotiations; and that President Reagan prove to the king his readiness to force upon Israel "solutions it will have difficulty accepting."

Sources in London have confirmed that Husayn actually holds a written guarantee by the U.S. President -- the existence of which has already been published -- "but in his opinion Reagan's undertaking does not seem sufficiently unequivocal or explicit."

Husayn admittedly said that he intends to join the peace process with Israel "without preconditions," but he also made it clear that "the status quo must be maintained during the talks," which means that Israel will be forbidden from "creating faits accomplis in the field," by expanding the settlement drive in the territories.

The sources in London have learned that King Husayn emphasized to Washington as well as to his London hosts, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Minister Francis Pym, that he is not prepared "to drag the matter out because the issues at hand are pressing," which is why he believes that a time-out period stretching until the end of March will certainly be enough to obtain "more explicit U.S. guarantees" that his demands will be looked upon favorably so that it would be possible to get down to the negotiations.

Husayn asked the British to undertake the initiative in order to help pressure Israel, and London really harnessed itself to the effort, which centers on calling a meeting of the EEC foreign ministers later on this month in Brussels in order to "help the Americans apply the proper pressure" on Israel "toward advancing peace in the region."

Husayn made it clear to the United States as well that without a U.S. compliance with his demands, he will not get the go ahead from the Saudis, who have already previously warned him "against selling the Palestinian issue in return for artificial peace." The Jordanian monarch made it clear once again that if Saudi Arabia objects to his joining the negotiations, he would not join the peace process.

In his talks in London, Husayn reported to his hosts not only on his contacts with President Reagan, but also on his talks in Moscow with Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov. Husayn said that Andropov warned him: "If you join the Reagan plan, we will really oppose you with all our might," to which Husayn replied: "I can see that you have not yet learned how to talk to us Arabs. Anyone who wants to get anything out of an Arab leader must not use threats."

ISRAELI FEARS ABOUT HUSAYN IN PEACE PROCESS NOTED

TA031336 Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 4 Mar 83 p 11

[Report by Moshe Yahalom]

[Text] It is feared in Jerusalem that Husayn will enter negotiations with Israel in spite of the government's announcement that it does not intend to freeze settlements at any stage during or before the negotiations.

It is feared that Husayn and the United States will lead Israel into a trap and that after negotiations have begun Husayn -- with the encouragement of the Americans -- will demand Israel impose a freeze on settlements and that if Israel refuses to go along with this demand, as Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in an interview with YOMAN HASHAVU'A, a public steamroller will be used against Israel and with the help of the U.S. Administration, Israel will once again be portrayed as the one trying to sabotage the peace process in the Middle East.

It is claimed in Jerusalem that it is impossible to freeze settlements at any of the stages of the negotiations with Jordan because this would entail an Israeli concessions beforehand of Judaea and Samaria and the right of Jews to settle anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el. "It is impossible," senior officials argue, "for such a concession to be made before or in the course of the negotiations. We are not presenting Jordan with any preconditions for entering negotiations with us and there is no reason why the Jordanians should present us with preconditions."

When this argument of "no preconditions" was relayed to U.S. elements dealing with this issue, they reacted by saying: "Israel has already posed a precondition that Husayn should adopt the Camp David accords which he was not a party to. If you are asking him not to pose any preconditions, you will also have to make concessions on the issue of the Camp David accords and leave everything open to negotiations.

Israel countered by saying: "You Americans are the first ones who pose preconditions to Israel. You are encouraging Husayn to demand a freeze on settlements and you also support this demand. In addition, you put forth a peace plan without consulting with us. Your Reagan plan is also a precondition. We can hardly conceive of a solution that would include all the preconditions posed before the opening of the negotiations."

KNESSET BODIES DISCUSS 83-84 DEFENSE BUDGET

TA031710 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Finance Ministry will not finance the IDF's stay in Lebanon from next month onwards. This emerged today in a joint meeting held between the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and Finance Committee about the defense budget for 1983-84. Our economic affairs correspondent 'Oded Shahar reports:

[Shahar -- live] Defense Minister Moshe Arens told the Knesset members today that he had not yet managed to study the details of next year's defense budget. As will be recalled, the budget was completed during the days of his predecessor Ari'el Sharon and was approved by the Cabinet. Incidentally, Minister Sharon at the time had demanded increasing the defense budget by 5.5 billion shekels, but the Cabinet had rejected this demand. However, Arens said today, Israel must continue to preserve its strength, and that it was only because of Israel's might that the peace agreement was signed with Egypt. Arens did not get into the budget details. This was done by the head of the Defense Ministry Budget Department. During his remarks it emerged that the Finance Ministry had not budgeted the IDF's stay in Lebanon from next month on, and that the amounts that the treasury had included in the state budget were only intended to cover the expenditures made during the Peace for Galilee Operation. He even stressed that no reserves had been allocated for the expenses that would be incurred because of the IDF's stay in Lebanon, and that problems are liable to crop up shortly in this regard. The head of the Treasury's Budget Department responded that the budget is not presented to the Knesset by the Defense or Finance Ministries, but by the Israeli Government. He said that if the IDF's stay in Lebanon drags on, it will be appropriate to examine if and by how much it will be necessary to increase the defense outlay. However, at this point the budget being submitted to the Knesset should not be increased. This development surprised the committee members, and this matter will be discussed at another session on this matter which has been slated for tomorrow with the participation of the chief of staff.

QIRYAT ARBA' COUNCIL ON RECENT INCIDENTS

TA031940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Qiryat Arba' Local Council expressed the fear that the chief of staff does not receive all the information about events in the security sphere in the territories. In a telegram to the defense minister the Qiryat Arba' Council says that over the last 45 days there have been 86 incidents in just the Judaea region. The Local Council demands that the chief of staff immediately intervene in matters.

In the afternoon the members of the Jewish settlements blocked the main road leading to the Ad-Duhayshah Refugee Camp. In the village of Yattah they took two of the local school students for an interrogation by security personnel. The mayor and the principal of the school claim that the settlers forces all teachers and students to stand in rows in the school courtyard and delivered warning speeches to them.

FRAYJ CITED TALKS WITH HUSAYN, MUBARAK

TA021959 Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 2 Mar 83 pp 6, 7

[Report by Rafiq Halabi]

[Text] On 11 February, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj conferred with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The latter talked about the chances for peace and transmitted through him a message to that effect to King Husayn. Frayj promptly boarded the plane that took him to Amman, and only 30 minutes after landing already met with the monarch, giving him the presidential message. Right now one can safely say that Frayj is the most recent Palestinian from the West Bank to have met with Husayn.

Frayj claims that Husayn is seeking any possible avenue to join the peace process. "Husayn has been talking about missing a historic chance," Frayj said. "He is worried that time is playing into Israel's hands while it does a lot to Judaize the territories. When we forfeit the land, he told me, we will lose everything and there will be nothing to discuss." The Bethlehem mayor got the impression that the king relies on the United States and that President Reagan promised him to pressure Israel and obtain significant achievements for Jordan and the Palestinians. "The United States is taking action to reach a real solution on the basis of Reagan's peace plan."

Frayj is not prepared to quote the king, but he has no doubt that "Husayn is convinced and confident of the seriousness of the United States. The key to the entire issue, the king says, is to incorporate the Palestinians in the peace process. Jordan has learned the lesson of the war in Lebanon. The weakness of the rejectionist countries and their inability to help Lebanon have set off a warning signal in Jordan. The king is afraid of an Israeli offensive on the east bank coupled with a massive expulsion of Arabs from the West Bank. The king is attentive to the voices emanating from Israel. He feels only losses and setbacks. Israel is threatening to annex the West Bank, and may, therefore, expel lots of inhabitants from there."

To me Ilyas Frayj now sounds more firm in his views than in the past. The moderate man from Bethlehem used to walk between the raindrops, and thus managed to maintain his ties both with Jordan and with the PLO, without being dismissed by the civilian administration in the territories. Now he believes that the Palestinian consensus is some sort of dictatorship which harms the Palestinians' chances of reaching U.S. recognition and realizing their national aspirations. He is not afraid of a Palestinian civil war and one could clearly see that he coordinates his positions with ousted Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa. Frayj said: "The king told me he would not let the chance slip by. Today there is a good chance of marching toward a peaceful solution within the framework of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Reagan plan."

When I asked him to analyze Jordan's present predicament, he tried to recall what the king had told him at their previous meeting 4 months ago. "After the PLO's departure from Beirut, the Jordanian monarch became responsible for 3 million Palestinians in Jordan and Palestine. The PLO must understand that it would be well advised to operate through Jordan. The king said he would not allow PLO members to operate militarily from Jordan, because this would jeopardize him, and this may be precisely what Israel seeks. But if 'Arafat should want to operate along political paths, the king would receive him with open arms, but then 'Arafat would have to take Husayn's positions into account."

Frayj was not invited to be in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but he feels sure that any delegation, whatever its composition, will have to obtain the approval of Yasir 'Arafat.

The Algiers PNC meeting resolutions said in the clauses on inter-Arab relations "rejection of all schemes which are aimed at harming the right of the PLO to be the sole representative of the Palestinian people through any formula such as assigning powers, acting on its behalf, or sharing its right of representation."

"Husayn perused these resolutions," Frayj said, "and when he returns to Amman these next few days, he will address the Arab nation and will present the conclusions he has formed in the course of his meetings in Romania and England, having held talks with Egyptian, Palestinian, and U.S. representatives. He has not decided when he will enter the peace process; he certainly will not do it until after he receives at least the tacit agreement of 'Arafat, otherwise he will have a hard time in the West Bank.

"I assume 'Arafat will endorse the king's moves. 'Arafat knows that we are undergoing a critical, damned period in every respect. This is a time of testing. How I wanted the PNC to finally decide to recognize Israel! I am saying this for the record and for attribution, and let people in Israel stop saying that the West Bank leaders are not daring to talk about peace. 'Arafat is well aware of our position. I said this to Husni Mubarak, too, and he is a very realistic man. He, too, believes that the true time for the test is now...whether to be or not to be. Look, these very days a new strong and broad front has emerged, including Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, and Egypt, and there is already talk about strengthened Algerian-Moroccan ties."

My interlocutor is optimistic until I remind him of the Israeli position. At that point he wears a serious expression and loses some of his confidence. It seemed to me that Frayj was talking about peace without referring to Israel. "Israel insists on Camp David, and Jordan -- so the king made it clear to me -- will not join the peace talks on the basis of Camp David. Jordan is talking about Resolution 242 and the Reagan plan. The king told me he will not agree to remove from the framework Arab Jerusalem or the inhabitants of the city, since it is in Jerusalem that the monarch's main power lies."

I wanted to understand clearly what the king's plan was. Frayj seemed to be citing by heart: "The establishment of an independent Palestinian administration that would be affiliated with Jordan. After some years the Palestinians will be offered the right of self-determination. Israel will block the issue of Palestinian representations and only U.S. pressure could help. King Husayn believes such pressure will really come."

Frayj believes that the majority of the Palestinian public in the territories wants a peaceful solution: "We are afraid...we are sick and tired of the occupation and we fear for the future of our land. Any political solution that would save us would receive our support. Even in Israel it is known today that it is not we who are endangering Israel, but the other way around: Israel is endangering us. There came the opportunity to get rid of Sharon and start a new policy, but he was brought into all the important committees. This is a shame. There is today a real chance for peace talks among Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinians."

Who are the Palestinians' representatives? Frayj does not evade the question: "There is no need to say their identity. Israel will not sit with the PLO, nor will the United States; whereas the Palestinians will not agree of talk to Israel without PLO approval. One must remember that 'Arafat agreed to have a Palestinian member on the Arab delegation leaving for London who is not a member of the PLO, and this is an important precendent.

"To my mind, a solution could be found somewhere between 'Arafat and Reagan. At our latest meeting the king sounded more optimistic than I have ever known him to be.

"The Israelis have annexed large parts of our land, but have not yet built settlements on them. If we procrastinate, 100,000 settlers will come to the West Bank, which will spell the end of the peace process and the demise of the Palestinian cause. Believe me, this will also be the end of democracy in Israel, and could possibly even put the lid on the chance for a dialogue. It is a pity that some West Bank mayors oppose a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which is the only chance I gathered this both from the king and from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak."

This is the testimony of Ilyas Frayj, one of the more moderate public figures from the West Bank Palestinian population, founded on private talks held in the royal palace in Amman.

REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH JORDAN'S PRINCE HASAN

TA021520 Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 2 Mar 83 p 7

[Report by MIT Middle Eastern affairs Professor Bernard Avishay on interview with Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan "about 2 weeks ago" in Amman]

[Text] When I met with Prince Hasan, I showed him a MA'ARIV article claiming that he objected to the establishment of a federation between Jordan and the territories. Hasan, who studied Hebrew in England, read the article and smiled. He was thinking, he said, about the longer range. He was thinking about the establishment of a federation and an economic common market among Jordan, the territories, and Israel. There is general agreement in the court today that the king must go back to the West Bank. Concession of it would cause the radicalization of the Palestinians on the east bank. At one time there was fear that the PLO's power could bring about the downfall of the Hashemite regime in Jordan. Now, after the war in Lebanon, the PLO is weak and Jordan is ready to enter.

Hasan opened with the question of whether I had read the report drawn up by Marion Benvenisti on the scope of settlement activity in the West Bank. I know, he said, that the Government of Israel wants to reach 100,000 Jews in the West Bank in 2 years. Jordan is ready to enter into negotiations in order to prevent this process. Hasan said Jordan is also prepared to have an interim period based on the Camp David principles, but the most important and basic condition for it would be a freeze of the settlements. This has both a symbolic as well as a practical significance. If Jordan joins negotiations on the future of the West Bank, and if it is agreed to freeze the establishment of new settlements, fewer and fewer people would want to settle.

As for the Palestinians, Hasan said the consensus that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative should be honored, but there is no desire to provide it with an important role in the negotiations. In the longer range, the way to circumvent the PLO is by way of effecting liberalization and democratization in Jordan. He says King Husayn has drawn up a plan which talks about phased democracy. He wants to set a date for elections to parliament that will have representatives from both banks, establish basic civil rights, and decentralize and cantonize the country "as in Switzerland." Jordan will not send Jordanians to rule the West Bank, but will elect people from the West Bank itself, men like Nusaybah, Frayj, and Ash-Shawwa. They will reconstruct the municipal administration during the interim period. He talked about two cantons in the West Bank -- one in the south and one in the north.

On Jerusalem there will be no compromise, I was told by all the Jordanians I met. At the same time, a senior court official emphasized the distinction between a "unified" Jerusalem and an "unpartitioned" Jerusalem. Jordan is not prepared to repartition the city. According to Prince Hasan, the advantage the interim period presents is that it would make the solution of the Jerusalem problem possible in an atmosphere of peace.

Hasan bases his desire for liberalization on the aspirations of the large middle class that has developed in Jordan, which is by and large Palestinian. These people will identify themselves as Jordanian for as long as the Hashemite regime is successful, and will consider themselves Palestinians if it does not. They want political involvement which the regime must supply.

Jordan's main fear, as it transpired from Prince Hasan's remarks, is that the Arab consensus might break. The economy is based on 300,000 Jordanians, some of them Palestinian, working in the oil countries. Saudi Arabia transfers $1 billion a year as military aid, and some of the money comes through Iraq. Jordan fears Syrian intervention and if Syria should again invade Jordan, Israel would not halt it as it did in 1970.

The Americans are pressuring the king into being quick to say something that would indicate his readiness to enter into negotiations. The king would also like to have the settlements frozen first. The Americans expected the king to come out with a declaration in early March, but things got mixed up, among other things because the Algiers conference resolutions were not unequivocal.

Prince Hasan entertains no hopes and illusions regarding the current Israeli Government's views on the future of the West Bank, but he pins his hopes on the confrontation between the Israeli Government and the U.S. Administration... Hasan, as well as some other Jordanians, has shown great interest in Yitzhaq Navon's candidacy. He expressed his regret that the Labor Party, he says, was not supportive enough of the Reagan plan and be its custodian in Israel. He fears that Begin represents that Israel with which negotiations would have to be held, which is why he only relies on the Americans.

JERICHO LEADER RESTRAINED; QALQILYAH LEADER FREE

TA010849 Jerusalem Domectic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] A restraining order has been issued in Jericho against Jamil 'Uthman, one of the leftist activists of the town. The order is valid for 6 months and is explained by security reasons. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari says that Jamil 'Uthman is considered by members of the former national guidance committee to be the chosen mayor of Jericho.

In Qalqilyah, one of the leaders of the pro-Jordanian activists, Ziyad al-Yunis, the head of the Agricultural Marketing Board, has been released from detention. No indictment has yet been issued against him. Ziyad al-Yunis was detained after the great village league rally in the village of Hablah, but the civilian administration vigorously denies that there is any connection between his detention and his refusal to attend that rally.

ALGERIA

TANJUG INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT BENDJEDID

LD031614 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1332 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Algiers, March 3 (TANJUG) -- The forthcoming 7th Nonaligned Summit Conference is being held in a particularly tense situation characterized by another straining of tension in international relations and, thus, by increase in the number of the hot beds of discord which are worsening an already complex situation, President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria has said in an interview with Srboljug Manojlovic, TANJUG [words indistinct] answering his questions concerning the international atmosphere in which the New Delhi 7th Nonaligned Summit is being held.

More than other nations, the nonaligned countries are feeling the consequences of this situation, but each one of them is observing the developments from its own angle of view, the Algerian president emphasized. This is why the New Delhi gathering will be an occasion for them to compare their analyses of the situation and their stands on the problems. This summit is also offering a possibility, however, to overcome the phase of analyzing and offer solutions to the problems to which priority is going.

It is with this belief that Algeria is going to the summit and we are expecting openness and constructive consultations. For, in our view, nonalignment is not a matter of circumstances, actions on the occasion or responses to a definite development. Nonalignment is the essential guidance in our policy, our fundamental choice, one of the components of our vision of the world and our conduct in international life, he said. The Algerian president assessed that the non-aligned "have had and continue to have enough common concerns and common objectives that it is possible to set the main directions of their programme of action and the common principles which continue to be valid".

"The development of the balance of Bloc forces, itself, in no way effects the authentic principles of nonalignment or the existence of the movement of nonalignment. This is why non-alignment as an independent factor in international (?relations), plays an important role both at times of crises and the [word indistinct] of forces and at times of the relaxation of international tensions", President Chadli Bendjedid sais. The Algerian president said that the non-aligned countries must carefully watch out for the benefits of detente not to be limited to certain privileged areas but to encompass the world, as a whole.

The acute economic crisis currently shaking the world calls for the action of the non-aligned countries to be more decisive, creative and bold than ever before. The possibilities for the action of the non-aligned are in proportion with the challenges these countries and all of mankind face, the Algerian president said.

Economic problems will be in the focus of the Delhi summit since it is clear that the world economic situation is a question of top priority in view of the fact that "the crisis is very serious and that it affects more the developing countries than the economies of the industrially developed countries", the Algerian president said. Disagreements and even open war conflicts between individual non-aligned countries, the Middle East situation and the situation in the Arab world, as a whole, the problem of the Palestinians and developments in Africa are the topics on which the Algerian president dwells in detail in his in his interview to TANJUG.

"It is a fact that there are quite a few disagreements between the non-aligned countries and that two non-aligned countries are waging an open war.

We will, however, never allow ourselves to preach to others and we do not claim that we know better what is in the national interest of a country", the Algerian president said. He added that "it is the duty of the non-aligned countries, both individually and together, to intervene toward reaching a solution to a problem over which non-aligned countries are in conflict."

Referring to the situation in the Arab world, the Algerian president said that "Algeria belongs both to the Mediterranean, the Arab world and Africa". "Indications of a genuine renaissance do exist in the Arab world but they cannot be realized to the end. We Algerians have not ceased to urge our Arab brothers to draw a lesson from the experience to date and to overcome its useless differences, to unite round a bold an realistic programme of struggle against underdevelopment, to resist imperialist pressures which are in evidence particularly in this region, and to unite (?so as to) resist the danger of Israel which jeopardizes the entire Arab world", the Algerian president said.

The session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algeria a short time ago drew attention to the fact that a solution for the Middle East problem is impossible unless the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, whose sole legitimate representative is the PLO, are materialized, the Algerian president pointed out.

He voiced his hope for the Nonaligned Movement to further offer its support to the PLO and the people of Palestine as it had done so far.

Commenting on the situation in Africa, Chadli Bendjedid warned that it was necessary to continue helping the peoples which were struggling for their national independence and for the right to self-determination. Fierce imperialist pressures are being felt especially in Africa where attempts are being made to make use of [word indistinct] on the continent on which the largest number of the so-called last developed countries are to be found, he said.

President Bendjedid asserted with satisfaction that very useful and fruitful consultations among a [word indistinct] number of partners, countries and political parties, well-aware of the existence of possibilities for fruitful cooperation, and started in the Mediterranean region.

Within this context, President Chadli Bendjedid listed peace and security of the Mediterranean countries as the essential goals of cooperation in the Mediterranean first implying a decrease and then a withdrawal of the military presence of the great powers, promotion of varied economic cooperation and a joint contribution to solving problems burdening the Mediterranean countries. This also implies their mobilizing for an effective support to the people of Palestine.

Bendjedid asserted with satisfaction that Algeria and Yugoslavia had identical or similar views on the most important international problems.

Relying on their joint experiences in the revolutionary struggle and equally attached to the principles of nonalignment, Algeria and Yugoslavia have built a tradition of consultations at all levels. Anyway, we have to admit that their economic cooperation has slowly followed their political cooperation. In the last years, we have been putting right this shortcoming through joint efforts and we are firmly determined to widen our economic cooperation into all fields since both our possibilities and our needs are complementary. I think that cooperation between our two countries can become an example of what can be done in the sphere of cooperation between two developing countries, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid said in conclusion of his interview to TANJUG.

PAPER EXAMINES HASSAN-BENDJEDID SUMMIT

LD031303 Algiers APS in English 1135 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Algiers, 3/3/83 (APS) -- The Algerian weekly ALGERIE ACTUALITE wrote concerning the meeting between President Chadli Bendjedid and the King Hassan II that Algeria gives to the concept of "positive good neighbouring" a dynamic content which calls for the settling down of the litigation though pacific way in the respect of each ones' political options.

The paper further added: Similarly to what has been undertaken to bring nearer the Mauritanians and the Saharans, Algeria is making a similar approach, it can not negotiate in the place of the Saharan neither substitute itself to them. The encouragement and the seeking of negotiations is however consistent with the international community wishes. The fourth commission of the United Nations over Western Sahara three years ago adopted by 74 voices against 12 voices a project of resolution in which an appeal is launched to the belligerents Morocco and Polisario front to start negotiations for a cease fire and create objective conditions of a return to peace in the region. This resolution reaffirms the Saharan people's inalienable right for self determination and for independence.

As concerns the Polisario front, the notion of referendum must lead to the independence of Western Sahara. The conflict no longer opposes a state to a movement of liberation but two states.

SDAR is recognized by a great number of countries, and is member of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). "It is a factor of stability and equilibrium in the region, an irreversible political and military reality that no one can deny." Mr Mohammed Abdelaziz, secretary general to the Polisario front, said in the fifth congress of Polisario front, ALGERIE ACTUALITE concluded.

Time came to Morocco to come to another vision of the Western Sahara for the spiral in which it is being developed had made so many forms and destabilized the international relations at the level of the Third World especially. Peace and stability in the region are required by Maghreb peoples which aspire to that the bargaining table will be substituted to the battle field. The way of wisdom, is the availability of Algeria to transcend all the marginal problems so as to substitute to them a responsible vision of our peoples' interests. The Algero-Moroccan meeting illustrates the Algerian will to go in the sense of ideals and legitimate aspirations of Maghrebian peoples. It rests with the concerned parties to answer positively and courageously such an ambition.

LIBYA

AIRLINER INTERCEPTED BY ITALIAN FIGHTER

LD031507 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada 19, March 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- A Libyan airliner, flight Number 102 Tripoli-London, was intercepted by an Italian fighter over the Mediterranean on February 27th. The Libyan airline authority said that the Italian fighter F-104 was equipped with air-to-air missiles. The source added that the fighter was flying close to the Libyan airliner for 35 miles which a violation of the international aviation regulation. The Libyan captain contacted the Italian air traffic controller and reported the incident but the Italian authorities denied to have any information about the fighter.

IRAN'S PRESIDENT SENDS SUPPORT MESSAGE TO LEADER

LD032049 Tripoli JANA in English 1813 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada 19, Mar 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- President Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran has sent the following cable to the revolution's leader affirming Iran's support for the Libyan people in bravely confronting U.S. imperialist plots.

"Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Az-Fatih Revolution, peace and God's mercy be upon you.

By sending its fleet to Libyan coastline waters and threatening the integrity of your country's waters and skies, American imperialism has further revealed its aggressive nature. This new move is a new link in the chain of provocations by the greater Satan against the struggling peoples and those demanding independence in the world. In every region where a people rise up for gaining their rights, freedom and independence, and in every corner where a voice is raised against oppression and injustice, the American military machine, with all its satanic force, mobilises its might against them.

America's latest provocations against Jamahiriyah were executed under the pretext of defending their allies and deserve some contemplation. They come on the eve of the weakening of the foundations of the terrified regime, imposed on Iraq, and amidst the danger facing America's strategic interests. They are a reaction against Jamahiriyah's continued and uninterrupted defence of the fightout stand of the Islamic Republic towards the war imposed on it.

With this satanic move, America wanted to show its muscles before the region's progressive and revolutionary countries, and to raise the tottering morale of her agents and hated mercenaries who are in a permanent state of fear from the anger of their peoples.

Stemming from the noble Islamic teachings and from its belief in defending the sovereignty of the Islamic world and that of the Islamic and progressive countries as one of its primary duties, the Islamic Republic of Iran, in view of Jamahiriyah's revolutionary stands opposed to the oppressers, declares its backing and support for brotherly Libya in confronting any aggressive provocation by the greater Satan. It calls on all Muslim masses in the region to be vigilant and steadfast in the face of America's conspiracies and provocations so as Islamic solidarity in the region gets strengthened and the Islamic masses' struggle destroys the big powers' domination over Islamic lands.

Seyyed Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran".

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA INTERVIEWED ON ALGERIAN RELATIONS

PM031053 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Mar 83 p 1

['Abdallah al-Hajj report: "Boucetta to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: "Other Meetings Between Hassan and Bendjedid, and Full Appreciation for King Fahd's Efforts"]

[Text] Jidda -- Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has stressed to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that other meetings will probably be held between King Hassan II and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and at various other levels to settle all outstanding issues.

He added that the recent summit meeting reflected good will, and both sides agreed that good fraternal relations should be restored in the interests of the two countries and the Arab Maghreb, which is in dire need of such relations.

Boucetta said that King Hassan II and the Moroccan people fully appreciated the recent efforts made by the Saudi monarch King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to bridge the gap between the Moroccan and Algerian views and effectively contribute to the settlement of all Arab differences.

He stressed that there will be positive steps related to the Sahara problem and confirmation of the Moroccan identity of the Sahara people through referendum.

Referring to the results of the PNC's meetings, he said that he was pleased with these results, noting that the resolutions adopted by the Palestinian brothers reflected the current phase through which the Palestinian question is passing and were also necessary for confronting the Zionist enemy.

On the OAU's role at this stage, Boucetta said that Morocco and Algeria agreed that the OAU's entity should be preserved and strengthened in the future because it is a true manifestation of African independent existence. Morocco and Algeria, he added, will endeavor to consolidate the existence and activities of the OAU in the interests of African states.

KING HASSAN SPEECH ON ACCESSION ANNIVERSARY

LD031355 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Speech by King Hassan II marking 22d anniversary of his accession to throne on 3 March 1983; place not given]

[Excerpt] Dear people: The efforts we have made in the past year were not confined to just one domain or to certain matters exclusively. They were extensive and covered numerous fields. They were on a largescale and involved various questions of economic and social development as well as other questions closely linked with international politics and Arab, Islamic, and African issues.

Concerning the latter issues, we made further efforts in the framework of the Arab League and the OAU. God had blessed us with the benediction of success, crowning our efforts for the restoration of the unity of Arab ranks with a summit meeting held in our country in Fes early last September. This meeting was attended by all the Arab leaders, despite the marginal disputes between them then. After their excellencies the leaders had debated seriously, frankly, and objectively for a few days, the meeting ended in agreement and consensus on a number of resolutions from which stemmed a comprehensive, positive, and constructive Arab peace plan.

Thus, and for the first time, the efforts made by the Arab nation led to a program that attracted attention and was given importance. International circles and bodies received it with appreciation and praise, considering it as an important and great step on the road to peace.

Proceeding from the Fes summit resolutions, we took this plan, [word indistinct] the members of the seven-member committee, to the United States. We and the foreign ministers accompanying us submitted its contents and explained its substance. Thus we showed it to his excellency our great friend Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States.

We explained it during the talks we held with senior American officials and at the UN headquarters, thereby seeking to enlighten minds and persuade them of the adequacy of the Arab peace plan stemming from the Fes summit.

In a few days, God willing, we will take this plan to London, capital of the United Kingdom, in the framework of the Fes summit conference, so that senior English officials can familiarize themselves with its aims and objectives through the explanations that we will give. God willing, we will be striving in the United Kingdom as we did in the United States, to enlighten minds and persuade them of the adequacy of our plan.

Dear people, we have also exerted continued efforts within the framework of the Arab League and within the framework of the OAU.

You may recall, dear people, that in June 1981 we put forward a proposal at Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, providing for a settlement to the Saharan problem and for putting an end to the tension in the region over this problem. Our proposal won the acceptance of the African leaders and presidents who were meeting at the time at the 18th African summit conference in Nairobi. Stemming from our proposal a decision was adopted providing for a referendum on self-determination and a cease-fire.

However, an attempt was made to abort and nullify this decision by the administrative secretary general of the OAU. The administrative secretary general thus violated the sanctity of the charter and law and legitimacy. Then followed other efforts to legitimize a fait accompli. However, we struggled and adhered to legitimacy. Our efforts have continued to restore legitimacy within the OAU. These efforts will continue because we believe that the OAU cannot survive without legitimacy.

As long as legitimacy is an essential pillar which under no circumstances can be abandoned and dispensed with, our efforts will continue for normalization, the establishment of justice, and the protection of the OAU from division, discord, and collapse.

Dear people, last year our country welcomed a great friend and dear brother, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the monarch of the Saudi Kingdom, who paid us a working visit. We and you, my beloved people, were very pleased with this visit.

The ties that bind us to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the ties that bind our country with the Saudi Kingdom are strong ones. The visit of our brother the Great Arab monarch provided an opportunity which we took to discuss matters of interest to both our countries and to consolidate further the bonds of fraternity and cooperation between us and to discuss Arab and Islamic questions of destiny and to review the issues of the hour which preoccupy us and receive our attention.

We also welcomed our great friend his excellency the president of the French Republic Francois Mitterand who paid a visit of friendship and cordiality to our country. You, my dear people, are aware of the ties of old friendship and cordiality, and also the close ties of cooperation that exist between us and France in many fields. This visit was an opportunity for both our countries to strengthen and consolidate the various ties that exist between us.

Our (?firm) commitment, my dear people, to holy Jerusalem and our great concern for Arab and Muslim efforts to continue, to intensify and be successful so as to save it from the yoke of occupation and to free it from shackles have prompted us, as they usually do every now and then, to convene the Jerusalem Committee, which we have the honor to chair, so as to review the fresh development on this issue and to discuss the measures which should be taken and the plans which are to be drawn up.

God has granted us success recently in bringing together the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee and the seven-member committee in Marrakech and in chairing the work of both committees.

God willing, my dear people, the meeting of the nonaligned countries will take place in the coming days in the Indian capital, New Delhi. You are well aware, my dear people, of the importance and hopes we attach to the Nonaligned Movement. We were among its founders; we continue to be among its supporters and protectors. Due to the extremely important nature of all its meetings we have decided that our Crown Prince Sidi Muhammad will deputize for us and represent Morocco at this coming meeting. Our crown prince will attend and participate in the work of this great meeting, for which we wish full success, taking with him our advice, guidance, and prayers.

A few days ago, there was a meeting, my dear people, between ourself and his excellency the president of our sister and neighbor, the Republic of Algeria, Chadli Bendjedid, at the Moroccan-Algerian border. During this meeting and in the talks we held we and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid reviewed most issues of interest to our respective countries. If our meeting was a step on the road toward resolving the existing bilateral problems and toward the normalization of relations between the two countries, we also regard it a step toward building the Arab Maghreb.

This as you know, my dear people, is one of the basic goals for which we have been sincerely working since we took the reigns of power. We pray to God to light our path, pave the ways, and make available the means of mutual understanding, cooperation, and harmony, and grant our two neighboring countries and fraternal peoples the bounty of harmony and good-neighborliness.

COOPERATION MINUTES SIGNED WITH IRAQ 2 MAR

JN021446 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Rabat, 2 Mar (INA) -- The minutes of the meeting of the third session of the joint ministerial Iraqi-Moroccan committee for economic and technical cooperation were signed here today. Finance Minister Thamir Razzuqi signed the minutes for Iraq while Finance Minister Abdellatif Jouahiri signed for the Morrocan side.

The minutes cover the expansion of bilateral cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, trade, marine fishing, and animal husbandry, and the exchange of technical expertise between the two countries in all the aforementioned fields.

The joint committee meeting started here last Monday under the two countries' finance ministers. Two subcommittees stemmed from the joint committee: the first to discuss the fields of economic and trade cooperation, and the second to discuss the educational, technical, and informational spheres.

On the other hand, Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, today received the Iraqi minister of finance. Their talks dealt with bilateral relations and means to promote them for strengthening joint Arab action.

Bouabid expressed the hope that the joint minutes, signed today, would contribute to the expansion of cooperation in all spheres. He also reiterated Morocco's support for Iraq's steadfastness in the face of Iranian designs which seek to undermine the sovereignty of Iraq and the Arab nation.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT REELECTED SSU CHAIRMAN, TAKES OATH

JN031808 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Mar (SUNA) -- At 1930 today President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri took the constitutional oath as SSU chairman. The SSU Congress has unanimously elected President Numayri as chairman for the SSU and the political grouping's candidate for the presidency of the republic.

SSU Congress Recommendations

JN031621 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 3, (SUNA) -- In the morning session held here Thursday the Fourth National Congress of the Sudanese Socialist Union S.S.U. unanimously endorsed the comprehensive political programmes bill for the S.S.U. third term and the amended basic systems bill of the S.S.U. for 1983. The Congress also endorsed the recommendations of its sub-committees. In the field of external policy, the Congress stressed the necessity of consolidating its positive aspect so that good neighbourliness policy would not be interpreted as a slowness in deterring attempts against the security and stability of the country.

The Congress recommended the providing of cultural annexes and consulates with qualified political cadres to be able to counter enemies, campaigns against Sudan. In the field of integration with Egypt the Congress pointed out the need for objective enlightening of the people with the aims and goals of it. A number of the Congress committees issued recommendations for promoting work procedures of the popular and sectorial organizations and strengthening their relation with the S.S.U.

The Congress called for making the economic programmes more flexible and submissive to check according to the changes that take place inside the country or abroad. The Congress recommended reconsideration of the investment act to guarantee flexibility of applicability. The Congress also issued a number of other recommendations on commitment to the stragegy and economic policy and programme.

SECURITY CHIEF RECEIVES LIBYAN OPPOSITION LEADER

EA031742 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president of the republic and head of the state security organ, received in his office this morning Dr Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqrif, secretary general of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya. During the meeting they reviewed the activity of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya, which aims to liberate and save Libya from the rule of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

WESTERN SAHARA

ANNIVERSARY SPEECH BY MOHAMED ABDELAZIZ

LD021301 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] The liberated territory: In a speech marking the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the SDAR [Saharan Democratic Arab Republic], Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the SDAR and secretary general of the Polisario, declared that "7 years ago through their martyred heroic son Al-Wali Mustapha as-Sayed our people proclaimed the establishment of the SDAR over the entire national territory, taking into consideration that this was a legal right and demand."

The means of achieving the aspiration to wrest this legitimate right usurped by colonialism hundreds of years ago were and still are represented by the great will of our combatants, fighters, and masses wherever they are to be found.

In the military sphere, the tripartite Madrid agreement has been foiled since 9/10 of our national territory has been liberated and the regime of Ould Dadda, which has one of the pillars of this agreement, was toppled. Direct French military intervention was also foiled and the vanguard of the army of Hassan II, especially formed to crush the people and deny them their rights, was destroyed. Abdelaziz added that in the military sphere a real Saharan popular liberation army has been formed. The army is equipped with material means, has gained experience and information, and is well organized. This alone constitutes a fundamental guarantee for the inevitable victory of our people. He pointed out that in the political sphere all necessary basic structures to enable the achievement of the aims of the liberation war have been constructed.

The president of the Saharan state dealt in detail with the victories achieved by the Saharan people in both the military and diplomatic spheres. In this respect he placed emphasis on Morocco's military failure, despite the increasing assistance it receives from a major power and despite the financial and material aid it is granted by a number of countries. He then expressed his satisfaction with the increasing reaction and prestige which his country -- recognized by 54 states -- now enjoys. President Abdelaziz also dealt with the great plot being hatched not only against the Saharan people but one which is aimed at halting any revolutionary movement in the Arab world, especially the Arab Maghreb. The president praised Algeria's firm assistance and affirmed the existence of strong bonds between the 1 November revolution and the 20 May revolution, which he said were consolidated by the common destiny of the Saharan and Algerian peoples. The general secretary of the Polisario once again stressed the determination of his people to wage the struggle until all of their territory was liberated.

After praising the Saharan combatants who are fighting against Moroccan occupation, Abdelaziz expressed his confidence in the inevitability of the people's Maghreb being formed in the near future. In this connection the president of the Saharan state addressed an appeal calling on the forces of the revolution to unite and be in solidarity in order to foil the imperialist plot aimed against them. He added: We have confidence in ourselves, in our allies, and in the progressive forces and peoples of the region. He concluded his speech by saying: In the name of these forces we welcome the Algerian delegation present among us and with us and through it we salute the revolution of the 1.5 million martyrs.

'FEROCIOUS' FIGHTING WITH MOROCCAN FORCES

LD032057 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] A statement published today by the Saharan Ministry of Information announced that ferocious fighting has been taking place for the past 3 days between the Royal Moroccan Forces and the revolutionaries of the Polisario around Semara. The statement said that the fighting began with a heavy artillery attach launched by the Polisario revolutionaries on 27 February around the occupied town of Semara in the region situated between Tasua and (Rabinblaw). The Saharan Ministry of Information statement explained that fighting is still continuing in that region and a detailed statement will be published at a later date.

CHAD

BARDAI RADIO SAYS NONALIGNED REJECTED DELEGATION

AB032028 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1830 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] It has been announced in the Indian capital [words indistinct] that the Nonaligned Movement will accept no Chadian delegation until a government of Chadians has been established in Ndjamena. This means once again that there is no legitimate government in Ndjamena, which is a rejection of the so-called government in Ndjamena, but this has nothing to do with our people's (?sovereignty). In making this historic decision, the nonaligned countries are abiding by the fundamental principles of the movement, namely to safeguard their true independence and fight alongside the oppressed people against international imperialism. Unlike the OAU which is (?dominated) by French and American imperialism, the Nonaligned Movement defends the interests of the poor and the oppressed.

SOURCES CONFIRM VISIT BY LIBYAN DELEGATION

AB022016 Paris AFP in French 1500 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 2 Mar (AFP) -- Diplomatic sources confirmed in Ndjamena on Wednesday that a 12-man Libyan delegation, led by Colonel Radwan, visited Ndjamena from Monday to Tuesday. This delegation, whose mission is unknown, was allegedly received on Tuesday by Chadian President Hissein Habre, this source said. In an interview published Tuesday in THE NEW YORK TIMES, President Habre personally disclosed the presence in Chad of this delegation from Tripoli charged with improving bilateral relations. Colonel Radwan led the Libyan expeditionary forces until their withdrawal from Chad in November 1981. The Libyan forces intervened in Chad to support the former transitional national union government of Goukouni Oueddei. Last autumn, Mr Goukouni formed a "government of national salvation" in northern Chad with "Libya's help."

BARDAI CLAIMS ANL SUCCESS IN GOURO BATTLE

AB032131 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1830 GMT 3 Mar 83

["War Communique on Gouro Battle" issued at Gouro on 28 February]

[Text] For the second time in less than 2 months, Gouro, held by the National Liberation Army [ANL] [Goukouni's forces], was attacked by the national annihilation forces, FAN [Habre's forces], on 20 February 1983. Now we can give you full details on the outcome of the fighting. The fighting began at (?2200) and soon after the ANL fighters had the upper hand over the enemies whom they pursued. But at about (?midnight), they gave up the pursuit. The FAN abandoned large quantities of equipment later seized by the ANL. The following are the details: Human losses of the FAN: 147 corpses were found including [words indistinct]. Material losses: [Passage indistinct] The ANL recorded (?18) dead and 22 wounded while no material losses were recorded. The results show that the FAN suffered not only a defeat but also a real military setback. The fighting made it possible to realize the good harmony between the units of the ANL and their excellent combat readiness.

[Issued] At Gouro on 28 February 1983

[Signed] General (Medou Zogo), ANL chief of staff

GHANA

COMMENTARY LINK'S COUP PLOT TO FOREIGN EMBASSY

AB031441 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The coup plot to overthrow the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] and assassinate some political and military leaders last Sunday deserves nothing but the total condemnation of all honest, patriotic, and progressive Ghanaians. A plot to halt the popular process aimed at restructuring the socioeconomic system of the country and to institute popular democracy in national life can be nothing but an attempt to reestablish the old order and subject the mass of our people to unbearable hardships and exploitation.

Such a plot could only have been hatched and put into effect by the enemies of the Ghanaian people, the social forces whose domination over our resources and people over the years has resulted in the social crisis in which we find ourselves today. From the available information and other indications that can be read at the moment, the coup plot was the work of both internal and external enemies of our people. It is no secret that the car in which the Afro-American wife of one of the leaders of the plot escaped with registration number CD 215 belongs to an embassy in Accra. What could be the link between the embassy and the coup plot? We hope a full scale investigation into the plot would establish the fact.

In the meantime, our security agencies must be commended for their vigilance in unearthing the despicable plot and in dealing with it speedily. Their continued and ever-intensified vigilance in the days ahead would be critical in crushing any counterrevolutionary attempts to take over the administration of this country and enslave our people.

However, we want to state categorically that it is not enough to deal with such counterrevolutionary plots in a military manner alone. Rather, the military measures that are taken must go together with political measures. The people must be given full information about the foreign involvement in the coup plot so that they could come out in the streets in their numbers to demonstrate their full condemnation and vehemence against counterrevolution. The press must be enabled to expose the enemies of the people and their despicable maneuvers to overthrow the PNDC. The organizations of the people must get to work even more than ever to educate the mass of Ghanaians to know their real enemies, internal and external, and the methods they employ to dominate the people, create confusion, and attempt to halt progressive change. This is the time to demonstrate the highest levels of vigilance and political awareness to defeat reaction and counterrevolution. For as historical experience should teach us, the enemies of the people never give up until they are crushed decisively.

RAWLINGS CRITICIZES PERFORMANCE OF WORKERS

AB040845 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] The Chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has emphasized that what the Ghanaian revolution needs is sober thinking and action. He declared: In the early days of the revolution, the angriest men with the harshest language became the champions of the day; now we want discipline and hard work.

Flight Lt. Rawlings was addressing the staff of the Ministry of Health in Accra after paying an unannounced visit to a number of ministries. He was not satisfied at the low level of attendance at work. The PNDC chairman pointed out that he does not have to go around work places to tell workers what to do. He expcts them to show a responsible initiative. Flight Lt Rawlings asked the workers to take stock of themselves in order to improve their performance.

He said the revolution needs to be independent, but Ghanaian workers have depended on others for far too long. The PNDC chairman again declared: Revolution may mean using the sun to tell the time instead of a watch, because you cannot manufacture a watch. He called on the Third World countries to do away with the exploitative developed world. Flight Lt Rawlings noted that India has been able to manufacture Tata buses out of the freedom to be, [as heard] adding that in Ghana, a lot of brains and creative potentials are being wasted. He therefore urged the workers to make an effort to learn to teach themselves how to improve their whole environment.

Flight Lt Rawlings accused them of remaining aloof for too long, adding: Too many of you are carrying yourselves in a detached manner unrelated to things around you. He assured the staff of the Ministry of Health that he would get the contractors working on the doctors' flats at Korle to speed up work to reduce the pressure on doctors who work late at night.

On their part, the workers pledged their determination to change their attitude to work. Earlier, the PNDC chairman had inspected broken down vehicles at the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare.

At the town and country planning department, he inspected a plan of redesigned Kwame Nkrumah Circle and commended the planners for the good work. He also visited the circle for further explanation. Flight Lt Rawlings later held discussions with the secretary for health, Dr Charles Bwedu, on the sanitation in the city.

PNDC SECRETARIES, OTHER OFFICIALS APPOINTED

AB030836 Accra PEOPLE's DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] The PNDC has made further changes in government and the public service. An official statement issued in Accra last night named six persons who have been appointed PNDC secretaries.

Dr G.B. Opoku becomes the new secretary for industries, science and technology in place of Dr Kaku Kyiamah, who has been relieved of his post at his own request.

Others are Mr Martin Alamisi B.K. Amidu, who has been appointed deputy secretary for the upper east, Mr Yaw Apau, deputy secretary for Brong Ahafo, Mr Edwin Barnes is the new deputy secretary for industries, science and technology, Mr Ohene Kena, deputy secretary for lands and natural resources, Mr W.H. Yeboah, deputy secretary for education (junior education structures), and Mr Kofi Vigbedor, who becomes deputy secretary for education (budget and planning).

The statement expressed the PNDC's gratitude to the two out-going secretaries, Professor Mawuse Dake and Dr Kaku Kyiamah for their sacrifices and dedication to duty during the most critical period of the revolution. According to the statement, Group Captain Frank Okine has been appointed managing director of Ghana Airways Corporation while Mr Ernest Kwesie has been appointed to his former position as chief accountant. Mr R.H. Thompson of the same corporation is to be redeployed.

Major Yaw Larsen (rtd) has also been appointed the new managing director of Bibiani Metal Complex (BMC).

The statement further named Mrs Valerie Sackey as acting director of a newly-established castle information bureau.

Meanwhile, the PNDC has decided that the managing director of Ghana Airways Corporation should become a member of the Interim Management Committee of the Civil Aviation Department. It has become necessary to make this modification in the composition of the committee in order to ensure that the operations of the Civil Aviation Department conform to the standards of international aviation and the requirements of international airlines.

LIBERIA

DOE, STEVENS MAY DISCUSS DISPUTE IN INDIA

AB030753 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 0655 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] A joint meeting of the People's Redemption Council and the Cabinet is expected to take place in Monrovia this morning at 1100. An Executive Mansion announcement quoted by the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY says the meeting will be held at the Executive Mansion. The purpose of the meeting has not been disclosed, but observers believe it may focus on the strained relations between Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Meanwhile, reports from Sierra Leone quote informed sources as saying that President Siaka Stevens has offered to discuss the row with Commander in Chief Samuel Doe when both men attend the nonaligned summit in New Delhi, India, next week.

PRC DECIDES TO KEEP SIERRA LEONE BORDER CLOSED

AB031921 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1900 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] The Government of Liberia has announced that while it remains open for discussion with the Government of Sierra Leone on the problems which arose from THE PROGRESS newspaper article, its border with that country will remain closed. This decision was taken today during a joint mission of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] and the Cabinet and was based on the unwillingness of Sierra Leone to manifest interest in amicably resolving the issue in the spirit of the Mano River Union.

The newspaper had made allegations tending to defame the character of the Liberian leader by erroneously citing that he had personally shot and killed his wife, Nancy B. Doe. The indifference of the Sierra Leone Government with regard to the concern expressed in Monrovia has been viewed with surprise and dismay by the Government of Liberia.

In the face of undue delay on the part of Sierra Leone to respond to Liberia's concern on the allegation, the government ordered a closure of its borders with Sierra Leone and advised troops to effect that closure. The Government of Liberia has therefore deplored the allegation of Sierra Leone that our country is making claims to a portion of its territory. The government says that Sierra Leone is attempting to confuse the issue of the newspaper article with territorial issue. However, the Liberian leader has declared these contentions in Sierra Leone to be outright nonsense. He further said that if he had wished to deploy troops into Sierra Leone, he would not have notified President Stevens of the troop movement nor announced the number involved. That alone he noted, should have been sufficient to suggest to the commander in chief of Sierra Leone the absence of any hostile intentions on the part of the Government of Liberia. The Liberian leader said that earlier attempts by Liberia to engage Sierra Leone in a dialogue failed when that country made an offer to send a delegation to Monrovia but withdrew the offer after the Government of Liberia had consented to receive it.

Equally, President Sekou Toure of Guinea had offered his good offices to effect reconciliation and renew harmony and good neighborliness between sister states of the Mano River Union. However, despite President Stevens' assurance that he would have attended the meeting in Conakry, he failed to do so. President Stevens equally rejected a recommendation from President Toure that Liberia and Sierra Leone should send delegations to the borders for a meeting. He said these actions were sufficient to prove Liberia's intention to resolve the issue in spite of Sierra Leone's reluctance to act favorably.

Meanwhile, the Liberian leader had expressed appreciation to President Toure for his efforts and assured him that when the Government of Sierra Leone recognizes the magnitude of the act against Liberia and makes appropriate apologies, the government will be prepared to consider the normalization of relations with the country.

NIGERIA

PETROLEUM ADVISER IN UK FOR OIL PRICE MEETING

AB040740 Lagos NAN in English 0720 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Lagos, Mar 3 (NAN) -- The special adviser to the president on energy and petroleum, Malam Yahaya Dikko, is in London for "a crucial meeting" with officials of six oil-producing countries. The countries are Kuwait, Algeria, Venezuela, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

An official of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Alex Nwokedi, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos today that Alhaji Yahaya would, at the meeting, defend Nigeria's decision to cut the price of its oil by $5.5 per barrel. Mr Nwokedi said that the special adviser, who is also OPEC president, was accompanied to the meeting by the NPPC's managing director, Lawrence Amu.

Industry sources confirmed in Lagos today that oil production had risen to about 1 million barrels per day and that indications were that it would further improve.

SENEGAL

PDS SECRETARIAT CONDEMNS ELECTION RESULTS

AB021737 Paris AFP in French 1236 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Dakar, 2 Mar (AFP) -- The General Secretariat of the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS-opposition) has said in a statement that it rejects the legislative and presidential elections held on Sunday in Senegal, believing that they were "a grotesque comedy." The General Secretariat added that it "does not recognize any government born of this grotesque comedy" and called for "free and democratic elections."

This stand was taken at the end of a meeting presided over by Abdoulaye Wade, a presidential candidate, following the announcement of the official results which gave the Socialist Party an overwhelming victory: 111 seats in the National Assembly as against 8 for the PDS and 1 for the National Democratic Rally. A total of 83.55 percent of the valid votes went to presidential candidate Abdou Diouf.

In the statement, the General Secretariat of the PDS condemns the "anarchic distribution of voters' card and voting without identity documents."

Finally, it believes that these irregularities are part of a "plan" aimed at "legitimizing" the functions of President Diouf "by giving him an overwhelming majority in a sham election. The plan is also aimed at weakening the PDS representation in the National Assembly and preventing the representation of Senegalese Marxists in the National Assembly."

PDS Will Not Participate

AB031548 Paris AFP in French 1239 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Dakar, 3 Mar (AFP) -- Abdoulaye Wade, secretary general of the Senegalese Democratic Party [PDS], an opposition party, has told AFP that his party will not sit in the National Assembly. The PDS, which according to the unofficial results published, won 8 seats (as against the 111 of the Socialist Party), said in a communique that it "refused to acknowledge" last Sunday's presidential and parliamentary elections as it feels that they were a "grotesque comedy" because of cheating and irregularities.

Sheikh Anta Diop's National Democratic Rally [RND], the second main opposition party which won one seat, has not yet indicated whether it will sit in the National Assembly. The RND leader told AFP that his party, which had denounced the cheating and irregularities before and after the election, would announce its stand during the day. The African Independence Party (PAI), led by Majhemout Diop, has appealed to the Supreme Court, which is in charge of supervising the elections. The appeal deals mainly with the color of the ballot papers. The colors of the ballots of the PAI and the Democratic League are identical, said Mr Diop.

UPPER VOLTA

SANKARA RETURNS FROM LIBYA; AL-QADHDHAFI SPEAKS

AB031003 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Captain Thomas Sankara, returned to Ouagadougou at about 1900 today following a working visit to Niger and Libya. He made no statement to the press but our colleague Noel (Mba), who covered this visit, surely has something to tell you: Yes, the prime minister indeed returned home this evening following a visit of about 1 week to Niger and Libya. In Libya he visited Tripoli and Banghazi. We arrived in Banghazi yesterday afternoon on a plane of the Libyan Airlane. The afternoon was sufficiently lively, which was normal after Capt Sankara's arrival in Libya. Another noteworthy event which occurred during this visit was the official dinner given by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi yesterday afternoon in honor of his host in the Banghazi amusement park. After this dinner, Col al-Qadhdhafi granted an interview to the special envoys of our national press. I invite you to listen to the Libyan head of state defining the basic principles of bilateral cooperation between Libya and other countries.

[Began Al-Qadhdhafi recording, in Arabic followed by French translation] It is to consolidate and build Africa's own strength and consolidate its own independence. After that there must be cooperation between the African countries; that is, Africa's wealth and financial potentialities must be pooled together. We will thus be able to effectively build our own independence and prosperity. I thank you and I am sure that you will convey this good message of the Jamahariyah to the people of Upper Volta. We assure you -- the Libyan people assure you -- of their good support and promise to fight by your side to ensure the triumph of the African revolution and the end of imperialist (?domination) of Africa so that Africa may remain for the Africans. I promise to help and support you. [end recording]

ANGOLA

SWAPO SAYS CONTACT GROUP GUILTY OF PASSIVITY

AB021309 Luanda ANGOP in French 0958 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Harare, 1 Mar (ANGOP) -- The Namibian contact group (the United States, Great Britain, Canada, France, and the FRG) is responsible for the crimes committed in Namibia and Angola by the South African racists, says the SWAPO news bulletin. This group's activities, states the bulletin issued in Harare, are aimed at diverting attention from Washington's objective, which is to impose, in connivance with Pretoria, a neocolonialist solution in Namibia and to set up a proimperialist regime in Angola as a result. As the puppet structures in Namibia are destroyed, the racist Pretoria clique increases its bloody terrorist tactics. The South African police, backed by special reprisal units, are carrying out arbitrary arrests and torturing everyone suspected of collaborating with SWAPO, said the paper.

The South African regime, in collaboration with the United States, is intensifying its destabilizing activities in Angola and Mozambique and in other frontline states. It is in this context that the action of the UNITA bandits and of the so-called resistance movement in Mozambique should be viewed for they are armed and trained by foreign instructors to attack the sovereign countries in southern Africa. This is why the contact group is guilty of passivity, the SWAPO paper concluded.

CSSR DEFENSE MINISTER TO VISIT 6-8 MARCH

EA031155 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] The Czechoslovak defense minister, General Martin Dzur, will pay an official visit to our country from 6 to 8 March accompanied by a high-ranking delegation from the Czechoslovak Armed Forces. During his visit, General Dzur will hold official talks with officers of the Angolan Armed Forces.

BOTSWANA

STUDENTS FLOGGED, EXPELLED FOR ILLEGAL MEETINGS

MB031214 Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 23 Feb 83 p 4

[By Jerry Masete]

[Excerpt] Nine more male students from Lobatse Teachers Training College [TTC] were on Friday found guilty by the Peleng Deputy Traditional Court president, Mr David Sikalesele, of holding two illegal meetings which allegedly resulted in the eruption of distrubances at the college last week Thursday and were each flogged three lashes on the back. In all, eleven student teachers were lashed following the incidents.

MOZAMBIQUE

PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL VISITS GDR 3-4 MARCH

For GDR media coverage of the visit of Samora Machel, president of Frelimo and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, to the GDR 3-4 March, including reports on the luncheon toasts on 3 March, see the GDR section of the 3 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

VOFA REPORTS JOURNALIST KILLED AT CHOKWE

MB031348 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 5 Mar 83

[Text] Maputo -- Reports from Maputo say that a military column has been attacked 40 km from Xai-Xai. It has also been reported that a television journalist was killed in Chokwe, following the departure of Somora Machel, who had delivered a speech in which he claimed that Mozambique National Resistance [RNM] activities in Gaza had been brought to a halt.

Other reports say that Cuban troops who have recently arrived in Mozambique are fighting alongside Zimbabwean and Tanzanian forces, thus aiding Frelimo in the struggle against the RNM.

VOFA ON INCREASING DISSENSION WITHIN FRELIMO

MB031603 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dissension within Frelimo is increasing. With the so-called fourth congress about to begin, more evidence is surfacing regarding disagreements among the Frelimo rulers. Until now such divisions have been hidden so that one could get the impression that Frelimo was a united and organized party. Lately, however, the Frelimo leaders have been unable to hide the dissension which divides and threatens the party. The impression of unity and cohesion that Machel wanted to give to the world has disappeared.

Such dissension has ceased to be caused only by the struggle for power. Now, it is caused by the military, economic, and social pressures from the popular opposition against Frelimo rule. Discontent among the people has increased, and they can no longer endure the appeals from and the famine caused by the leaders. Military operations against the regime are directed at Maputo, and this has resulted in the disruption of the supply of essential commodities to the capital, Frelimo's last bastion.

The Maputo communists are already feeling the noose tightening around their necks, and now they are trying to secure their future by stockpiling everything they can lay their hands on. Before the congress is held mistrust has surfaced and nobody knows who is willing to support the Maputo government, since most of the country is under the control of the armed opposition, and the people do not follow the orders from the central authority.

The pressures from the war are being felt in the various provinces. Ministers and governors do all they can to carry out the orders coming from Maputo. However, the ministers and governors are unable to carry out these orders, and they cannot stop the activities of the Mozambique National Resistance [RNM], which is moving closer to the provincial captials. The governors demonstrate great determination in trying to show Maputo that the tasks will be fulfilled, but they cannot be fulfilled. Despair has taken the Frelimo leaders' minds by storm, and as a result Frelimo guidelines are forgotten. In some cases the guidelines are replaced by others which are completely different. In Beira they adopt measures which are then canceled in Maputo. There is no communication among the provincial governments, and they are now in open confrontation with the central government.

This is the present situation in Mozambique, and an example comes from Sofala, where Armando Guebuza, the national political commissar of the so-called Mozambique Armed Force, is presently besieged in Beira. In an attempt to contend with RNM activities in Sofala Province, Guebuza decided to arrest a large number of expatriates working in the Beira region. Then he made the arbitrary decision of expelling 20 Portuguese nationals from the country.

The expulsion order was canceled by the time the Portuguese were taken to Maputo, where they awaited transport to Lisbon. Once in Maputo they were approached by a minister of the central government responsible to the minister of justice, who told them that the expulsion order had been canceled because the central government was the only one entitled to issue expulsion orders, and Guebuza's decision was taken beyond the scope of his responsibilities. He interfered with the minister's authority, and Maputo was forced to overrule Guebuza, who apparently likes to abuse power.

The pillars of the Frelimo regime are in disagreement among themselves. Everyone does what he wants. They fight among themselves. They cannot make up their own minds. The solution for the problem is the elimination of the causes which brought about the present situation, and this can only be achieved by overthrowing the Maputo regime. By removing Frelimo from Mozambique it will be possible to turn the economy around. Famine and deprivation will end and production will increase while the shortage of commodites will cease to exist. It is for this reason that the RNM is fighting while expressing the will of the Mozambican people.

As time goes by Frelimo will run short of schemers. Some have already realized that there is no future with Frelimo and that famine will not vanish while Frelimo is in power. Regardless of how mahy congresses they hold, they will have to defend themselves, rather than the fatherland, because the RNM is everywhere. There will never be a victory over underdevelopment while Frelimo is in power. Socialism, as outlined in the handbook of Mr Karl Marx, cannot be built in Mozambique by his chief followers since Frelimo is even unable to implement its own basic principles. Frelimo's fourth congress will be a circus where many words will be spoken and nothing will be achieved. The participants will defend themselves in the face of the existing friction within the party. Some will be dismissed and used as the new scapegoats to explain the difficult situation in Mozambique, the responsibility for which lies entirely with Frelimo. Those who decide to abandon Maputo and to side with people, might have some hope for the future. In the end it will only be Machel and a handful of his lackeys who will witness the destruction of the Frelimo regime. It will not be possible for them to evade the people.

DEATH SENTENCES CARRIED OUT 28 FEBRUARY

EA021137 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] (Augusto Jonas Andissene), Jorge Zefanias Limbobo, (Felipe Niquisse), Joao Jose Dias, and David Alfredo, who were sentenced to death by the revolutionary military tribunal, were executed by firing squad the day before yesterday, according to today's NOTICIAS.

The five who were executed were recently condemned to death on the following charges: belonging to and collaborating with a clandestine organization; armed rebellion; espionage, and terrorism.

NAMIBIA

SECURITY FORCES KILL 155 SWAPO TERRORISTS

MB040715 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] Security forces in South-West Africa have shot and killed 155 SWAPO terrorists since the start of the latest SWAPO offensive in the territory in the middle of last month. The victims of the terrorists have so far mainly been members of the black population, and 25 have been murdered or killed in landmine explosions. Ten other civilians have been seriously injured and 37 have been abducted.

The South-West Africa Territory Force says in a statement released in Windhoek that the security measures that are in force have proved successful. Everything possible is being done to prevent the terrorists from penetrating the organised farming area south of the Mangetti block, and the farming community is being informed daily of developments.

SOUTH AFRICA

TRADE-INVESTMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ISRAEL

MB031903 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] An agreement designed to strengthen trade and investment ties between South Africa and Israel has been signed in Cape Town by the minister of finance, Mr Horwood, and his Israeli counterpart, Mr Yoram Aridor. Mr Horwood said the agreement covered joint projects already tackled and still to be tackled by the two countries. It also made provision for the freer flow of money between the two countries and the setting up of mutual trade and credit and cooperation in the spheres of agriculture, technology, and research.

Mr Aridor said he welcomed the agreement and hoped that it would lead to further pacts between Israel and South Africa.

TRANSKEI LEADER REFUSES TO TAKE BACK SQUATTERS

MB031429 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 3 Mar 83

[Text] Transkeian Prime Minister George Matanzima has rejected South African attempts to persuade Transkei to take back 1,000 squatters. Mantanzima says the South African Government had attempted to link the question of squatter repatriation with a multi-million-rand Transkeian employment project. He says the project will go ahead. He added that Transkei will undertake to receive some of the squatters in the western Cape depending on work opportunities in Transkei.

Mantanzima has condemned the demolition of shacks at the KTC camp near Cape Town.

SWAZILAND

FINANCE MINISTER SPEAKS ON 1983-84 BUDGET

MB021224 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 2 Mar 83 pp 4, 5

["Text" of speech on 1983-84 budget given to Parliament by James F. Simelane, minister of finance, on 1 March]

[Excerpts] The first thing I wish to emphasise is the tight revenue constraint under which this budget was formulated. The total revenue forecast for 1983-84 is E183.6 million.

I would now like to turn to the question of the overall budget result and financing of the budget. As shown in the summary on page three of the estimates, despite our stringent efforts to restrict recurrent and capital spending within available resources our deficit on local resources is E7.1 million. With an additional E28.9 million of overseas funding our overall deficit is thus E36 million.

ZIMBABWE

HERALD CITES NKOMO'S 'SHAME,' PAST 'BETRAYALS'

MB031923 Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Feb 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Undying Shame!"]

[Text] Somewhere in the Bible it is written: "The wise shall inherit glory but shame shall be the promotion of fools." Joshua Nkomo, a lay preacher at times, may be assumed to have come across this during his Bible readings. What does he make of it?

In denouncing the "destabilisation alliance" between Nkomo, ZAPU and South Africa at the weekend, the prime minister, Cde Mugabe, told the nation: "It is surely to the undying shame of Joshua Nkomo and ZAPU that he and his party now seek the active support of South Africa in order to cause chaos in the country and so attempt to bring down the people's government. What does Nkomo hope to gain?"

Shame shall be his gain and he will gain it in great abundance. His is now the politics of desperation along the road to eternal shame. The dream of gaining political power in this country is now beyond him, his tricks and manoeuvres are cumbersome and contemptible, and the government has always stayed one step ahead of him. His desperation and confusion are therefore not hard to understand.

To turn to South Africa for assistance against this country's independence is an act of madness. That regime is not only a regional reject but an international pariah condemned by the world for its hatred of the African race. All SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] countries are now victims of the evil designs of that regime. We are all paying penalties of proximity to an African-hating regime. The African brothers and sisters in that country are subjected to hell on Earth, and the collapse of that 20th century barbarity is the prayer of all progressive and peace-loving mankind. But no. Nkomo wants them as allies against peace! If that is not madness, what is?

We know, and we might hazard a guess that Nkomo also does, that the birth, growth, and peaceful development of the nonracial state of Zimbabwe is a serious threat to the bogus theory of apartheid.

That regime's policy is to pray to whoever is its god and actively plot against our new order. Clearly any Zimbabwean partner in this wicked exercise is a traitor. We must therefore rally round the prime minister and confound the machinations of the destabilisation alliance.

Many of our people feel the time has now come to deal with Nkomo once and for all. But is it necessary? In fact judging from last week's events involving Nkomo's attempted flight to South Africa, he himself has discovered that his political sun has set. We must not forget that he is a past master at fleeing the country once he smells danger.

He did it when the colonial regime banned the ANC in 1959, the NDP [National Democratic Party] in 1961, and indeed ZAPU in 1962. In one particular case he fled to as far away as London, leaving other leaders in prison and the rank and file suffering in a leaderless resistance effort. Indeed the split in the nationalist movements in Oye was a direct result of these betrayals through cowardly escapes. He is indeed not as much of a mountain as his volume might suggest, but a messy heap of sand. Supporters and dissidents, take heed!

PAPER SUPPORTS RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN REPORTERS

MB031151 Harare THE HERALD in English 21 Feb 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Long Overdue"]

[Text] The decision by the minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, to withdraw the accreditation of Mr Holgar Jensen, a correspondent of NEWSWEEK, was long overdue. Five months after this country was granted independence, Mr Jensen stirred a hornet's nest when he wrote a biased and unfounded report against the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, and the country in an article titled "Reign of Terror in Zimbabwe." During the war, he was one of the most favoured journalists by the Smith regime and did everything for it and even accompanied Mr Smith on his American tour.

When the present government came to power, it removed all restrictions on journalists because it believed in the principle of freedom of expression and freedom of the press. So far there is nothing that the government has done to indicate that it has departed from this principle. It is a pity that the axe had to fall on Mr Jensen alone. There are about five journalists who in our opinion should also be expelled or prevented from reporting about events in this country.

Reading reports of certain journalists, particularly those who are based in South Africa, one finds that there are some foreign journalists who want to continue making money from foreign newspapers they work for through sensational but totally unfounded stories, at any cost to the country, regardless of the truth and the effect to the country.

Mr Jensen is based in a country where human rights are daily flouted, where freedom of the press is non-existent and where he can never report about the atrocities being committed by the Pretoria regime against the people of Namibia.

Last September, we criticised a secret press conference that had been called by two lawyers to denounce law enforcement agencies in a case they knew was pending in a Gweru court and question the motive of a foreign news agency in providing a venue for such a conference. We now see that the two lawyers have been fined and the agency that arranged this meeting is still in business.

It is unfortunate for Zimbabwe that many of the overseas correspondents who report on this country are either based in South Africa or are the same people who used to report on the Smith regime. It would be a miracle or it would be expecting too much to expect a journalist who used to describe nationalists as communists to embrace or write something favourable about the present government.

Of course we want to say also that not all foreign journalist are bad. There are some good ones but they are in the minority. And should the government introduce restrictive measures against foreign journalists, they will have themselves to blame.